February 1983

Citizens' Band

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RIG REVIEW

Uniace 200 investigated

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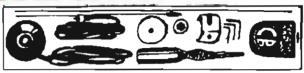


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Editor: Chris Adam-Smith

Editorial Assistant: Kevin Whitchurch Managing Editor: Cliff Wilson

Citizens' Band

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ABC

Cover this Month

The Binatone Long Ranger 40, a nice forty channel portable that — if you are very clever — could be yours for the price of a postage stamp. Which reminds me...

Four young breakers were driving along the road in an open topped convertable. They were happy and gay — well, happy anyway. As they drove past a block of flats a younger breaker, having polished off a Golden Delicious, tossed the munched-up apple core out of the window. That core made its way unerringly to the nose of the car driver who was on channel at the time. 'Look out!' warned his companions with one voice. 'Look out for that apple core!' But the driver paid them no heed and upon being struck by the residue of that popular fruit from the rosaceous tree he drove the vehicle slap bang into a lamppost. All four were hurt though I'm happy to say, not very badly. Hence the saying... Core scorned is four harmed!!!!



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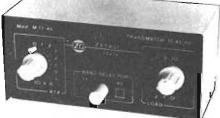
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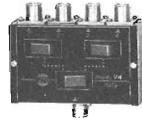


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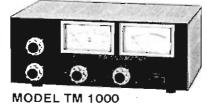
MODEL V4 4 Way Ant. Switch Price £6.88 (P&P £1)



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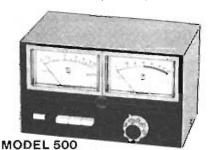
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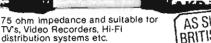
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UPDATE

NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF CB

NEWS

Christmas is done and gone and an awful lot of money has changed hands for both wanted and unwanted presents. Many of the younger readers will, by now, be proud owners of CB radio transceivers — mostly mobiles masquerading as base stations or portable models. Parents, Uncles or Aunts who parted with precious cash during these difficult times will not want to see their money wasted.

One would hope that some interest was shown in CB by the recipient before the gift was purchased — that interest is something that needs to be nurtured. It is very easy for children — or adults for that matter — to misuse CB and during the period following Christmas the airwaves will be bubbling with new breakers. All are most welcome. It will now be left to adults with a genuine respect for the service

to ensure that those rigs are used properly. Common sense, a close eye and a little earwigging will not be wasted during this period.

Your favourite CB mag goes from strength to strength and a host of new features will be introduced during '83. The 'Rig of the Year Award' initiated in CB World, now incorporated in Citizens' Band, will continue but under a revised format. Details of this soon.

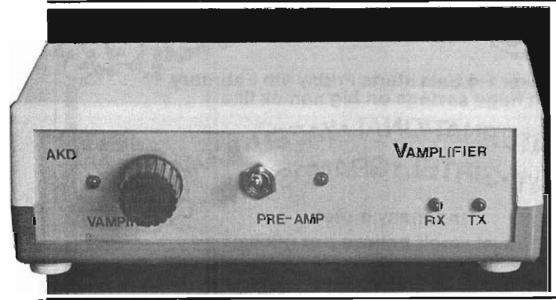
The health of the CB market, contrary to belief in some quarters, is strong and at least three new rigs will be on the shelf' early in '83. You will get full and detailed reports on these just as soon as the lab boys have finished their analysis. Some rigs have disappeared from the shops and some care must be taken, when buying, to ensure that servicing is available under your rights as a consumer.

A couple of new contributors have been taken on board and we hope — depending on the practability of their schemes and things — to bring you more DIY projects. Hopefully we will kick off next month with a follow up to the very popular Update article on rig modification.

Somewhere in this issue — at the time of writing the pages are un-numbered — you will find that joyful TWONG character, a fugitive from another magazine who has sought refuge with Citizens' Band. Great character and we hope you enjoy his crazy world.

If you are home based be sensible, if you are mobile, be extra careful on the roads. One CB phrase that I do like is . . . Take care 'cos we care!

Chris Adam-Smith



Vamplifier

Telecomms, UK distributors of AKD products have announced the release of the 'Vamplifier'. This unit is a combination of their already popular CB Booster and Vampire.

The Vamplifier's pre-amp stage is switchable incorporating a very low noise F.E.T. device. Whilst the attenuator section (Vampire) is now made variable and switchable for Ultimate control of "bleed over". The unit will be selling at a retail price of £29.95.

As an added bonus AKD now incorporate a Low Pass Filter in both the Vampire and CB Booster at no extra cost.

CAS

THE WORLD

Big Dixon's

Tuning into CB in a big way is Sandra Clifford. Sandra who? Good question. Sandra is Coventry Carnival Queen and was recently around and about at the opening of Dixon's superstore in that fair city.

Dixon's have built a

4000 square foot store — big enough to house the whole range of their products — including CB. As you can see from the picture prices at Dixon's are really low right now — we advise you to rush along to your local store or even onto the new one in Coventry. It's so big you can't miss it.



UPDATE



More Maxcom

Maxcom have added two new rigs to their already comprehensive range. The Super 4E, which is an updated version of the standard 4E will be reviewed next month. Their spankingly brand new rig, the Maxcom 30E, will be on sale early in the new year. As you can see from the photograph it is a handsome CB and just how well it works we will be finding out very shortly. Watch this space.

Enquiries on either of these rigs should be addressed to AMTelecommunication Services, AM House, 9a Old's Approach, Tolpits Lane, Watford, Hertfordshire WD1 8QR. It should be noted that AMT (Maxcom) obviously have faith in the growth of CB in this country and are backing this faith with hard cash and some good products.

CAS

Competition Winners

Hey, you at the back! Sit up and pay attention. You don't want to miss the winners of our November competition do you?

If you remember (I know, I know, November was long time ago) we set you eight cryptic questions, the answers to which were the names of certain antennas. Well, as usual, the postmen had a hard time of it. The Charing Cross Road was iammed with red vans packed full of entries. Thankfully, most of you entered on postcards so my letteropening finger was spared. It was left to our revered Managing Editor (bow, bow, scrape, scrape) to dive head first into the pile. When he emerged he was smiling and holding Mr Brind of Beaconfield's entry aloft. Mr Brind will receive his prize forthwith - a Maxcom 4E

The second entry to be extracted from the mountain was that of Stuart Gagen of King's Lynn. He wins an SWR meter courtesy of South Midlands Communications.

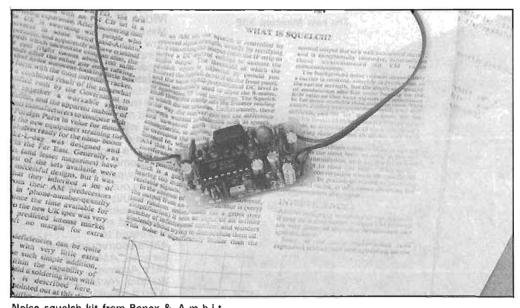
The third prize was a Johnson SWR meter. We sent dear Mr Wilson in again, and although he wasn't smiling quite as much now he emerged triumphant. In his delicate paw was Mr Powell



of Mold's entry.

There were ten runnersup. Each will receive a unique CB sew-on patch. They are: Simon Marles of Wrexham, A Sumby Snr. of Sunderland, Mr P Sumby of the same address, G Knox of Stockton On Tees, CC Bowering of Bristol, Paul Hallsworth of Denby, Derbyshire, Mrs B Gouin of Sittingbourne, P Matin of Glasgow, Mrs P Craddock of Sponoon and C Horner of Rugby.

UPDAT



Noise squelch kit from Bonex & Ambit

More on Mods

Our 'Update Special Rig Modification' feature in the October issue seems to have generated a fair degree of interest. Interested parties will recall that at the time a genuine 10.695 MHz crystal filter was unobtainable, and we recommended a 15KHz wide 10.7MHz filter. We now have details of a number of suitable 10.695MHz crystal filters which will offer superior performance to the one originally detailed.

First off we have a sample from P.R. Golledge Electronics, of Merriott, Somerset, TA16 5NS. (0460-73718). This is a two pole filter with a centre frequency of 10.695MHz. The 6dB bandwidth is

 \pm 3.5KHz, and the stop bandwidth at ± 10 KHz is 20dB. The input and output impedance is 1Kohm. Price in one-off quantities is £4.30 inc, VAT. Because the input and output impedance is fairly low by crystal filter standards, it ought to be possible to directly substitute this filter for the standard ceramic type without worrying too much about

terminating impedances In other words, just unsolder the original ceramic filter, substitute this one and you're awayl

Next off is a sample from Bonex Ltd, of 102, Churchfield Rd, Acton, London, W3 6DH. (01-992 7748). Bonex are the West London agents for Ambit International, who we mentioned in the original article. The specification of this filter is identical to the one detailed above except that the impedance is the more usual 3Kohm. This will necessitate some modifications to the rig circuitry in order to provide the correct terminating impedance. These mods will be along the lines of those outlined in the October article. Price is £4.30 inc VAT and p&p.

Also available from Bonex and Ambit is a noise squelch kit. Pictured here. This is also £4.30 inc VAT and p&p. We have fitted our sample to a Cybernet 134 chassis with excellent results. However, the PCB is very compact, and construction is not recommended by those unused to very fine soldering

work.

CP

Law Givers?

The Telecommunications Bill. published on November 19th '82, includes provisions amending the Wireless Telegraphy Acts 1949 and 1967. Their purpose is twofold: to rationalise and update the penalties for wireless telegraphy offences; and to introduce new powers to enable more effective enforcement of the law. The provisions include:

 powers for the police or persons authorised by the Secretary of State (members of the Radio Interference Service) to seize apparatus for the purpose of proceedings;

a limited power of arrest

without warrant for the police In cases involving the illegal use of radio transmitters; and powers for the Secretary of State to control the sale and possesion of specified wireless telegraphy equipment.

Controls on sale and possession

To reduce or prevent interference, the Secretary of State has powers at present to prohibit by order the manufacture and importation of specified equipment except with his authority. But he does not have powers which the provisions will give him - to control the sale and possession of such apparatus. This will help control further the availability

of illicit CB equipment; at the moment, about 1000 complaints a week concerning interference to domestic TV and radio caused by illegal CB are received by the Radio Interference Service (R.I.S.).

Seizure and forfeiture of apparatus

The proposed powers of seizure will include a provision enabling the police or the R.I.S. to apply to the court by way of a civil procedure for the forfeiture of apparatus illegally possessed. This would give an alternative to prosecution where it appears that nothing useful would be achieved by seeking a criminal conviction. This might be, for example, where

a person accepts that he should not have had the apparatus in question and does not appear to be deliberately flouting the law.

Penalties

The provisions in the Telecommunications Bill do not increase penalties for existing offences (other than for two which are made triable-either-way). However, one effect of the Criminal Justice Act 1982 will be to raise the maximum fine for the unlicensed use of a transmitter from £400 to £1000.

At the moment these very serious proposed changes to the law are being carefully studied and we shall be reporting further. CAS

Knight Time

We have received three rigs from Knight Communications for review in the magazine. The largest of the three is a base station, this will be reviewed in next month's

issue. The other two rigs are mobiles one, a budget rig, costing only £25.00. Details of the range can be obtained from the Luton branch at, Unit 19, Brittania Estate, Leagrave Road, Luton LU3 1RJ.

Supertuned Base

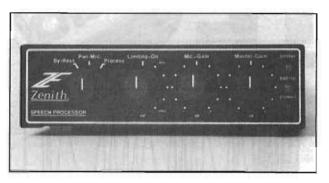
One of our favourite rigs is Radiotechnic's Supertuned M40 Special. But now there is a rival for our affections. Because Radiotechnic are CAS I selling a new Supertuned rig

- their B40 FM Special. It sells for around £110 and if it lives up to the reputation of its mobile brother should be very good indeed. Watch out for a review in the near ΚW future.



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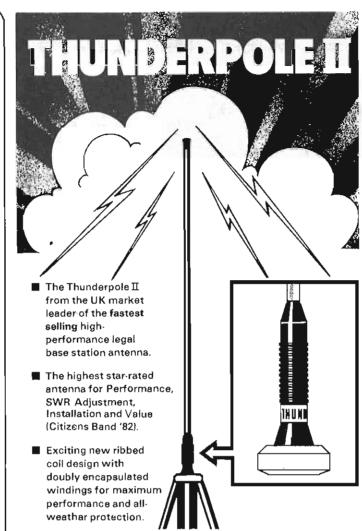
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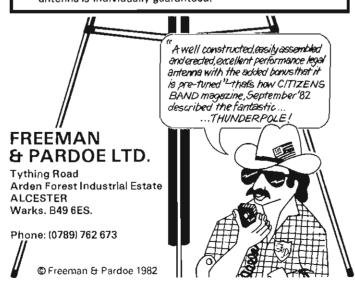
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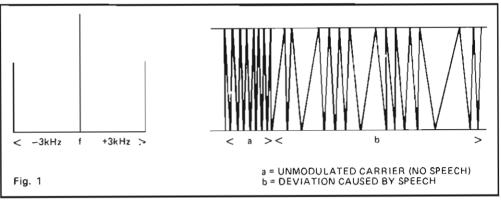


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UPDATE

Keith Townsend well known CBer and exponent of sartorial finesse, takes you inside of the black box to see just how that signal gets out . . .



ast month we offered a thumb-nail guide to the various functions performed within the average radio receiver. This month let's take an equally simplified look at the other side of the coin, the way in which an audio signal such as music or the human voice is transmitted to that receiver. In some respects the function of a transmitter is less complex than that of the receiver, needing only to convert a sound from the relatively low frequency audio band to a frequency within the radio part of the spectrum and then to pass the resultant signal to an aerial, from where it will be radiated in a manner which is acceptable to a receiver operating on the same frequency.

For sound technical reasons most modern transmitters, including those designed for CB, use the system known as narrow band frequency modulation let's examine this method of transmission first, leaving other forms for further down the page.

Hot and Cold

Obviously the first necessity is to change the sound which you wish to transmit into a wave from which the transmitter will recognise. To achieve this the sound is collected by the microphone. As the sound waves cause the diaphragm to vibrate the electro-magnetic field within the microphone feeds the variations into the first stage of

the transmitter, commonly a crystal oscillator - though a variable frequency oscillator is needed if the transmitter is to be capable of tuning to anything other than predetermined channels. It is most important that the crystal oscillator and its component tuned circuits are stable, ie not subject to drifts or other variations in frequency, since the result of such changes would make reception of the signal difficult and, in severe cases, would place your signal outside the band in which you intended to transmit. Since the temperature of working components is a major factor in determining frequency stability, some slight variations are unavoidable within the first few minutes after the set is switched on, or when it is operated in conditions of extreme heat or cold.

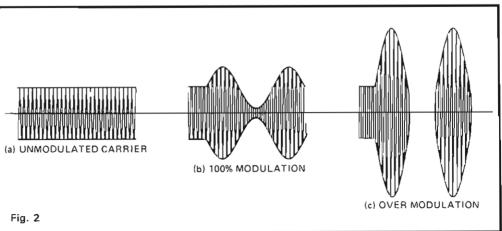
Passing Phase

In the case of modern CB rigs this oscillator is contained within, and forms part of the PHASE LOCKED LOOP, which also determines the frequency at which a signal will ultimately be delivered to the antenna. Inside the phase locked loop the audio frequency taken from the microphone is compared with the stable frequency. The relationship between these frequencies is subject to a slow phase change, thus allowing the frequency to be modulated, whereas a rapid phase change would actually prevent modulation of the frequency. The result of this phase difference is to create a direct current voltage which varies slightly in sympathy with the exact audio frequency being applied at any precise moment. This produces a **DEVIATION** about the centre

frequency, typically of the order of 2 to 3kHz (Fig. 1).

In order that the desired channel may be selected altering without the relationships created within the phase locked loop control passes the t o nowFREQUENCY SYNTHESISER. which ensures that the degree of deviation does not exceed the stated limits, regardless of the difference between the applied audio frequency and the final transmission frequency, ie whether you use channel 1 or channel 40.

By means of the phase locked loop and synthesiser the signal for ultimate transmission has now been created, but it must undergo considerable amplification before it is delivered to the aerial. In the case of transmitters having a power output below about 25 watts this is achieved by means of a transistor, though a circuit



designed round a valve will be needed to handle power output in excess of this region.

AM & SSB

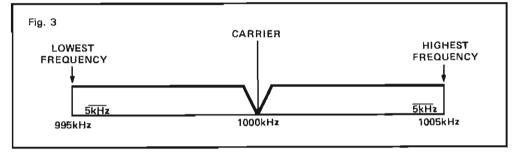
Having discussed the principle of an FM transmitter, let's examine the differences between that and the other two modes of transmission, amplitude modulation and

single sideband. All transmissions rely upon a carrier wave, though the treatment of this wave varies, dependent upon the transmission o f mode selected. Whereas in the case of FM the actual frequency transmitted varies by a few kHz, in AM the carrier frequency remains constant whilst the amplitude of the applied signal varies (Fig. 2). That is to say that the pitch and the volume of the voice affect the strength of the outgoing signal. In the case of broadcast stations a large bandwidth upwards of 75kHz either side of the nominal frequency - is required in order to achieve high fidelity where the applied audio frequency can vary a minimum 20Hz and a maximum 16kHz. For voice communication, on the other hand, intelligibility is the prime requirement. This means that only frequencies up to about 3kHz need to be transmitted and has the added advantage of enabling a greater number of stations to operate within a restricted frequency band. Thus the bandwidth of an AM transmission needs to be about 5 to 6kHz - roughly 3kHz either side of the nominal frequency. Hence overmodulation of the signal will cause interference to adjacent channels in the same way that

bandwidth of the signal. To properly modulate a carrier wave the power within the wave must be increased by fifty percent. That is to say

over-deviation of an FM signal

does by increasing the



that a carrier wave of, say 5 Watts, will require the addition of an audio wave of 2.5 Watts. It is for this reason that power mikes, which tend to add more than the required power increase, cause significant over-modulation when used in conjunction with an AM transmitter and are virtually useless when used with an FM transmitter in which the depth οf modulation remains constant.

The increased power necessary to modulate the carrier in an AM transmitter is supplied by a MODULATOR, a form of fairly high powered amplifier, coupled to a modulation transformer This configuration is extremely wasteful of power, meaning that for a given input power the transmitted signal power would be less than would result from the same initial power using FM.

Hi and Lo

The transmission of a carrier wave inevitably produces SIDEBANDS, which consist of frequencies above and below that of the carrier itself (Fig. 3). For example a frequency of 1,000kHz, having bandwidth of 10kHz would exhibit an upper sideband of 1,005kHz and a lower sideband of 995kHz. Since all the intelligence in an AM, or double sideband transmission is contained equally within each sideband it is wasteful of

transmit both sidebands together with a carrier which contains no intelligence whatsoever. For this reason the single sideband transmitter (Fig. 4) suppresses both the carrier and one of the resultant sidebands. In order to do so the carrier frequency is fed from its oscillator into a balanced modulator, together with the modulating voltage. The effect of this stage is to suppress the carrier, leaving both sidebands to be passed to a filter stage, in which the unwanted sideband is removed. Since normal methods of frequency multiplication would result in a corresponding increase in the width of the remaining sideband this method of final frequency determination cannot be used. Thus the frequency — the wanted sideband - is then mixed with the product of a crystal oscillator and a variable frequency oscillator. This stage is then followed by a tuned amplifier with the ability to reject the unwanted product of the earlier stages.

Design and Construction

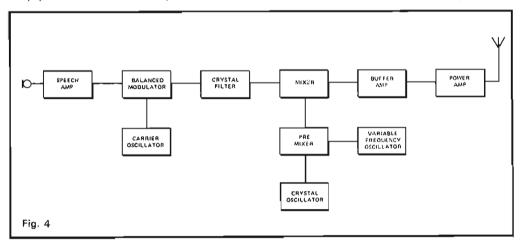
Because of the complexity of single sideband transmitters and the multitude of different frequencies produced within the various stages it is essential that design and construction should be of the highest possible standard in order to prevent the accidental both power and frequency to transmission of any but the

desired final frequency as this would inevitably lead to interference to other services. particularly television. For this reason the final stage of the transmitter is a linear amplifier, used so as to amplify the wanted signal without amplifying the unwanted product. A good quality SSB transmitter will include a buffer amplifier between the mixer and the power amplifier in order to further reduce this suppression. The addition of a further, external linear amplifier will greatly increase the likelihood that unwanted frequencies are transmitted and can often be the direct cause of TVI where none existed before.

Power

Since each stage of the transmitter will consume a proportion of the power fed into it, it is safe to assume that the transmitter will be no more than about seventy percent efficient, since the peak amplitude of modulation is twice that of the unmodulated carrier the peak power is the sum of the top and bottom peaks of the modulation envelope, or four times the sum of the carrier power less the stage losses.

Of the three different forms of transmission which we have discussed single sideband can be said to be the most efficient form of speech transmission, since it occupies the least bandwidth. It is, however, more critical of accurate tuning than either AM or FM and therefore more likely to cause interference, particularly to television and broadcast reception. Narrow band FM, on the other hand, is far less likely to be the cause of such interference and provides good coverage, subject to the limitations of the type of antenna into which its signal is fed. Although widely used within the amateur HF bands. AM is rapidly falling out of favour worldwide, since it offers neither the power and efficiency advantages of sideband, nor the relatively low incidence of interference of FM. CB





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SUPERlavunch

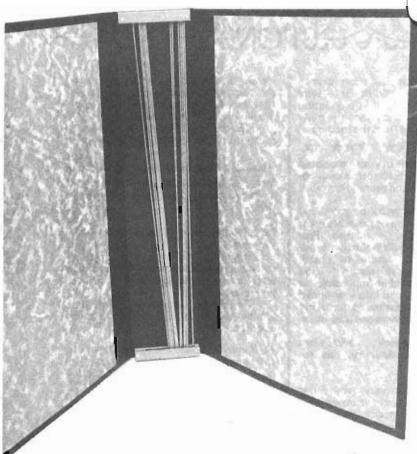
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Smart Alec takes a handful of your letters out of the Q and A bag and passes a couple of them over to Smart Chris Peterson...

This month's Star Question comes from Mr. Durant — Old Boiler — way down there in Bristol. It is a question that is often asked and I hope the reply gets some response from the readers.

Q As a reader of one of your associated magazines, Hobby Electronics and, being semi technical and retired I am most disappointed in CB.

The magazine lacks projects and concentrates more on rigs that are on or about to come onto the market. Projects which can be built in the home, advise on changing filters to better crystals, improving RF quality — the sort of things it would be impossible for manufacturers to build into low priced rigs. I know this is possible as one of my own cheap rigs is now as good as an expensive one.

Excuse my cheek...and what happened to Rick Maybury, has someone shot him?

A Thanks for your very nice letter John, sorry I had to cut it down to a reasonable length for publication.

Now you don't have a cheek. From yours and many other readers points of view your comments are valid. However, the other magazine that you mention caters for a different area of the market than CB. It has a greater number of readers who are fairly adept at projects and who are more than a little handy with a soldering iron. You will have noticed that HE does, from time to time, carry DIY projects that do have an interest to CB users.

We did carry a project a couple of issues ago on how to modify a rig but, in general, it is difficult to get features like this that are, A — of interest to a representative number of readers and, B — that are readable yet easy enough for the novice to do. I don't want our many younger readers blowing themselves up or burning their parents houses down.

Having said all of that I know that the Editor is constantly on the lookout for material of this nature. Simple step by step projects that will interest the breaker but will not result in a barrage of mail and phone calls from readers who don't know a crystal filter from an ic. Or because things have gone wildly wrong when they attempted something they were not really capable of.

Maybe your letter will prompt some

letters or DIY jobs from the many Rig Doctors out there. Projects that competant breakers can handle but are still possible for the novice to tackle.

Thanks again and no, Rick Maybury is alive and well and living in London.

SA

Mr. K. McConnell of Salisbury in Wiltshire has an interesting little question.

Q I have found it possible to tune our TV aerial down to 1.1.1 with a matcher and transmit. Will it cause my rig any damage, would it cause TVI and if the answer to the questions is no . . . would you recommend it?

Could you tell me of a firm that stocks the Falcon CB and how much does it cost?

A If you have used the rig the answer to the second part of your question will by now have been answered. As for the first part well. . . using an antenna matcher you can get down to 1.1.1 on almost anything from a coat hanger to a baked bean can. We all know that coat hangers don't make the best antennas and I would respectfully suggest the TV antennas don't either. The matcher should protect your rig but I doubt that your signal is much to shout about.

Sorry on the Falcon — Kestrels and Hawks yes, Falcons no. Perhaps a reader can help out there!

SA

From Mr. B. Murray of Rochdale comes a question about the Update article on rig mods. I pour myself a coffee and hand this one over to Chris Peterson.

Q In the Update article on rig modifications, October edition, you stated that a cristal filter with a centre frequency of 10.695KHz and a bandwidth of 8KHz was not available. Ambit International do two such filters a 2 pole type and an 8 pole. Would the 8 pole version be the best to use?

A Yes Mr. Murray, for the really enthusiastic rig doctor Ambit do offer the 8 pole filter. This has a bandwidth of 8KHz (+/- 4KHz) and the stop band attenuation is a whopping 8OdBl The price is also fairly whopping at

£14.50+VAT+P&P. Note that this filter is physically bigger and has different pinouts to the standard ceramic types. It is not a direct replacement. However, those who enjoy a challenge should be suitably rewarded.

CP

While you are at it Chris you had better answer this one from S. McLauhlin from Market Harborough

Q I carried out the rig mod in the October issue of your mag exactly as described. I found that the mod worked well until I used the rig in the car, I then found that I had severe ignition interference which I could not cure. I returned the rig to its standard condition and the interference was gone.

Could you tell me if this is usual with this mod and is there any cure for the

problem?

A I have not experienced the difficulty you mention regarding ignition interference, nordo I know of anyone who has. However I have received two other enquires from people with problems and there does appear to be a common thread.

I suspect that the receiver was previously being de-sensed to such an extent that you were unaware of the ignition noise problem. Possibly it was being de-sensed by the ignition noise itself! Now that the de-sensing has been largely elimited, the other more subtle problems are becoming noticeable.

Bascially, there is no reason why the modification should have affected the rig's basic susceptibility to ignition noise. I can only suggest you follow the usual tedious ignition noise remedy pro-

cedures.

CP

One last question Chris then you can go back to sleep. This time from Mr.G.A of Catford in London.

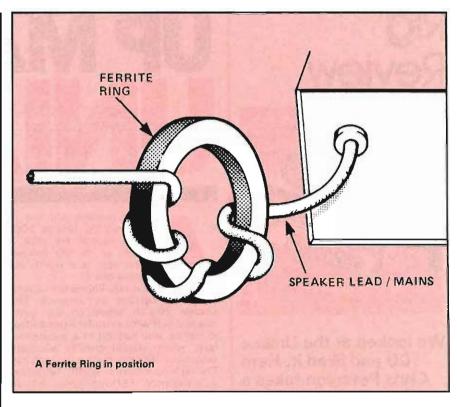
Q You referred, on several occasions to circuits using the MC3357 IC. Is this a suspect chip?

A The 3357 is adequate when preceded by a crystal filter as the IC manufacturers intended. However, most rig manufacturers have deleted this essential component on the grounds of cost, with the all too familiar results!

CF

That's all on the rig modification article for the present, in the coming issues Chris will be writing an Update on his Update! So, to a question on Hi Fi interference from Hedgehog down there in Kent.

Q I have a problem with my rig, when the Hi Fi is on downstairs and I key the mlke, my rig interferes with it. Could you please tell me what causes this and how I can cure it?



A The interference is caused by RF getting into the Hi Fi. Disconnect the Hi Fi speakers and plug in a set of headphones. If the trouble is not present then you know that the RF is getting in through the speaker leads. Simply put a ferrite ring as close to the socket as possible and wrap the cable around and through it five times. If it isn't that then try the same principle on the mains lead. If that does not work you will have to get an engineer in to isolate the Hi Fi. Telecoms of Portsmouth will supply the rings and you must connect them as illustrated.

SA

Two quick questions to finish off this month's column with — they both concern the price of rigs and come from Mr. B Davis of Bolton and from A.M. Jones of Salop. Both breakers are curious about rig prices — our reference section, catalogue price lists and shop prices. All seem to be different.

A The price list in the reference section contains the prices quoted by the manufacturer or distribution company. They are typical prices. As we always tell you — shop around as prices can vary considerably. It is not always best to buy the cheapest. As rig bought for ten bob in a backstreet may have another owner and, if you buy a rig from a shop that isn't going to be there tomorrow — how are you going to get it serviced if things go wrong with it? Shops that have high overheads may be forced to charge more than the little CB shop around the corner or, vice versa. We can

only tell you of the recommended price the rest is up to you and your hairy legs!

SA

A anomoly spotted by the Bookworm of Lanarkshire in Scotland...the sharp eyed Scotl

Q In your December '82 issue, you reviewed the Harvard Good Buddy and the Lowe TX40. Both have front and left microphone sockets but in the panels you gave one 'good' and the other 'fair' for mike location. Could you please explain.

A Happy new year to you too, and thanks. Simply an error in setting the copy. Which the eagle eyed little Kev failed to spot. I have had words with him but as he really isn't so little I didn't push it too far! Yes David, they should have both been fair. We usually give a 'poor' only if it is left and at the side of the rig. A CB patch is on it's way to you this very moment.

S A

Well that's it again for this month. Keep'em coming but keep 'em short. I would just like to thank Ken Stone of Birmingham for his pleasant and long—very long—letter. Perhaps a shorter letter for Back Chat... Now I'm going to type this veeery slooowly. NO SAEs PLEASEI As yet we do not operate that kind of readers service although we are looking into the possibility.

Problems should be sent to CB Q & A. Citizens' Band, 145 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H OEE.

Rig Review



We looked at the Uniace 100 and liked it. Here Chris Peterson takes a close look at the 200 and tells you what extra you can expect for your money...

UP MARKET UNIACE

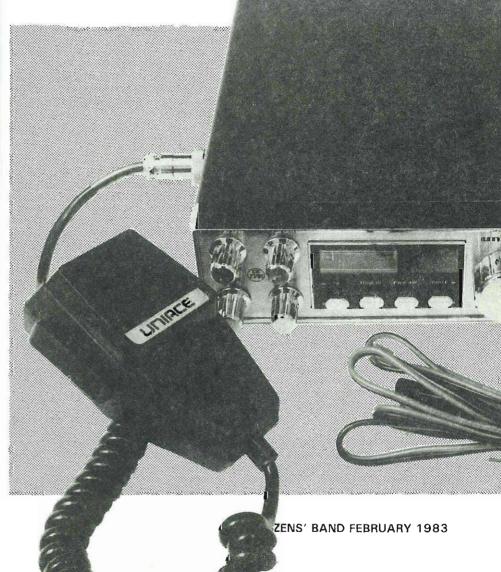
few months ago we re viewed the Uniace 100. This month we take a look at its big brother and ask: Is it worth the extra cost?

The Uniace 100 impressed us with its above average performance. The Uniace 200 is based on the same chassis, but with extra facilities added. It comes well packed in a substantial box, which should provide adequate protection against our postal service. The rig is no miniature outfit, measuring a substantial 160mm wide, 51mm high, and 215mm deep. This may not sound too bad, but remember that this is another rig with the mike connector on the left hand side. This eats up at least another inch width wise.

Although quite a lot of chrome is in evidence, the styling isn't too garish. Some of the rigs we've seen have resembled a Wurlitzer juke-box more than a transceiver. Uniden have managed to avoid falling into that trap, though the styling does show a certain transatlantic influence.

The left hand side of the front panel contains a group of four knobs, arranged in a square. Top left is the mike gain, and alongside it the RF gain control. Bottom left is the volume/off control and alongside it is the squelch. The central feature of the front panel is a black rectangle containing in the top left the power/signal strength meter, and alongside it the red LED channel indicator. Beneath these, arranged in a horizontal row are four push-buttons.

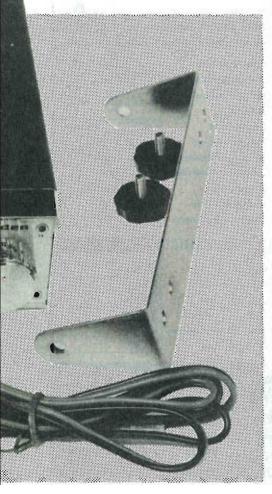


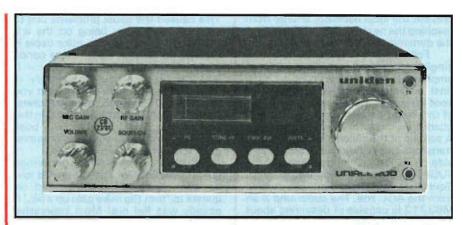


From left to right these are PA/CB, tone hi-lo, 10dB attenuator, and a dimmer switch. Finally on the extreme right is a large channel selector knob. In the extreme top right hand corner is a small red TX warning led. Similarly in the bottom right hand corner is a green RX LED.

On the back panel is a standard SO-259 antenna connector, two 3.5mm jack-sockets for external and PA speakers, and a standard type 3 pin power connector. The mike connector is a four pin locking type on the left hand side. Apart from being mounted in an awkward place it also has non-standard pin connections, so beware when using it with 'brand X' microphones.

All the controls had a nice feel to them. Compared to the smaller Uniace 100, they were easier to operate, benefitting from the increased spacing possible with the larger front panel. Mike gain controls are largely a waste of time. Most produce best results when turned fully up, and tend to be left there permanently! Similarly dimmer switches are usually largely unnecessary especially when used with LED displays. These are usually dim enough to start with. However on the Uniden it also dims the meter illumination, which may prove useful if you drive a lot at night. All too often we have come across rigs that dim the LEDs, only to leave the RF meter dazzingly bright. Uniden have avoided falling into that trap, and are to be congratulated. It's a pity they didn't omit the mike gain control, and use the space created to bring the mike connector onto the front panel.





The rig comes with all necessary mounting hardware and a reasonable instruction manual. However, as with the Uniace 100, the printing in the section on SWR could confuse anyone unfamiliar with the subject. Adequate reference is made to Home Office regulations on antennas.

The Uniace 200 has an isolated chassis, and can therefore be used in both positive and negative earth vehicles. A full circuit diagram is included in the manual, a practice of which we whole-heartedly approve. Other manufacturers please note.

Technicalities

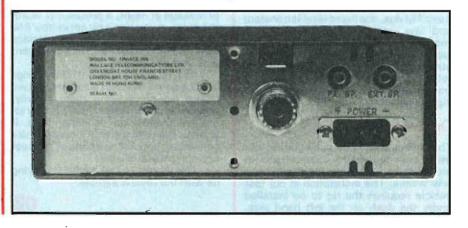
Hardly surprisingly, the Uniace 200 circuit bears more than a passing resemblance to its smaller brother. The synthesiser is a TC9119P, Toshiba's answer to the Sanyo 7137. A single transistor crystal oscillator provides the 10.24 MHz reference frequency. The VCO output is buffered in an emitter follower circuit feeding a tuned transformer. Rather an unusual practice, as this sort of circuit is notoriously difficult to stabilise at RF frequencies. However Uniden seem to have mastered it as no signs of instability were noticed.

In the transmit mode, the buffered VCO output is doubled in a TA7310P ic to achieve the final 27MHz output frequency. A conventional 3 transistor RF amplifier strip raises the output up to 4 watts. The output filtering is comprehensive, as might be expected, to meet HO requirements. 10dB attenuation is achieved by reducing the supply voltage to the pre-amp and driver stages. The output stage is run at full voltage all the time.

The mike amp uses a pair of opamps with a diode limiter between them. Plenty of audio filtering is in evidence.

The receiver is a strange mixture of the boringly conventional and the unexpected. Starting at the front end, a pair of back to back diodes protect the RF transistor in the transmit mode, there being no antenna switching between TX and RX modes. Usually, the diodes are fed with an amount of DC bias which can be varied down to zero by the front panel RF gain control. Usually RF gain controls vary the gain of the RF amplifier stage. In this case, the protection diodes are used as an electronically variable RF attenuator. This is certainly a novel approach. PIN diode attenuators working in a similar manner are common in professional VHF and UHF equipment, but this is the first time we have come across this approach using conventional diodes in domestic equipment.

Following the input tuned circuit, the RF amp is boringly conventional in comparison. It consists of a simple common emitter NPN transistor, biased from an AGC line. The first mixer is a jugfet using source injection. The 10.695 MHz first IF is transformer coupled into a ceramic filter. The filter output is transformer coupled into the second mixer. This is an NPN transistor with emitter injection. The output is resistively coupled into a 455KHz ceramic filter, which is in turn resistively coupled into the second amplifier. Since this stage isn't balanced, there must be quite a lot of local oscillator energy appearing at the collector of the transistor, and we can't help being surprised at the absence of a tuned transformer at this stage to trap it out. Admittedly the ceramic filter should



prevent the local oscillator energy from reaching the next stage, but it must limit the dynamic range of the mixer.

Following the ceramic filter, a single transistor common emitter amplifier is transformer coupled to a final amplifier consisting of a pair of boot-strapped transistors. The output of this stage is transformer coupled to a quadrature detector ic type uPC1028H. A sample of the second IF from the final transformer is rectified and used to provide AGC to all stages except the JUGFET mixer and the final IF amp. Squelch is level dependent, and derived from the AGC line. The audio amp is an MB3712 ic capable of delivering about 1.8 watts of audio.

Lab Results

The power output measured 4.2 watts at 13.2 volts, and the 10dB attenuator reduced this by 11dB. This is slightly over the limit on power, but within the 1dB measurement tolerance allowed. The second harmonic measured -82dB, bettering the HO requirements by a whole 10dBl All other harmonics were better than -80dB, again comfortably within spec, but not by quite such a good margin as the Uniace 100 we tested. All frequencies were within 180 Hz of nominal, another creditable performance. However we could only record a deviation of ± 1.05 KHz. The recommended deviation is ± 1.5 KHz, with a 'never exceed' limit of ± 2.5 KHz.

The readability of an FM signal under difficult conditions is directly proportional to deviation. Whilst overdeviating can cause other problems, to get the best out of the system you must take full advantage of the deviation allowed. Most manufacturers consequently tend to set the deviation slightly on the generous side. The result recorded here is slightly disappointing.

At maximum RF gain, the receiver sensitivity measured 0.7 uV PD for 10dB S/N, 89 corresponded to 310 uV, and the fully turned up squelch required 7 mV to open it. With the RF gain turned down, the sensitivity reduced to 180 uV, S9 corresponded to 80 mV and the fully turned up squelch couldn't be opened at all

This indicates an adequate sensitivity, and a sensible working range for the RF gain control. However, it is worth mentioning that in contrast to many FM receivers the noise increase with falling signal levels is very progressive. With most FM rigs, the noise level is constant and low until a certain threshold is reached, at which point it builds up rapidly. This indicates that whilst on strong and weak signals performance will be comparable to any other rig, it may appear slightly noisier on mid-range signals between S3 and S7.

On the Air

The Uniace 200 was subjected to our usual test procedure, operating both mobile and home-based for a period of a few weeks. The installation in our test vehicle requires the rig to be installed under the dash on the left hand side.

This caused the usual problems due to the mike connector being on the left hand side of the rig. The mike cable is barely long enough under these conditions, despite the small size of the car. If your car can accept a rig centrally or under the drivers side of the dash you should be OK. Please, manufacturers, desist from this dreadful practice. In this case the rig would have to have been scratched from my short-list however good it may have been otherwise.

In other respects the rig performed quite impressively. The measured low deviation produced the expected requests to 'turn the mike gain up a bit.' It already was flat out! Most impressive was the receiver performance. Swamping and de-sensing were noticeable only by their absence. Well, there was a hint of it under extreme conditions, but I really do mean extremel Indeed, this must rate as one of the best rigs around in this respect. Audio performance was adequate and clear without being sparkling.

The tone control produced the best results in the 'lo' position. The audio response was quite adequate, and it took the slightly harsh edge off.

The squelch worked well and had plenty of range to cut out the central London 'garbage' on channel 14. A little bit more hysteresis might have helped. Indeed, this rig is one of those that responds to severe overloads from adjacent channels by getting slightly noisier rather than by going deaf. As such it would benefit by employing a noise squelch rather than the level type fitted. Nonetheless, as supplied it is definitely one of the better rigs around.

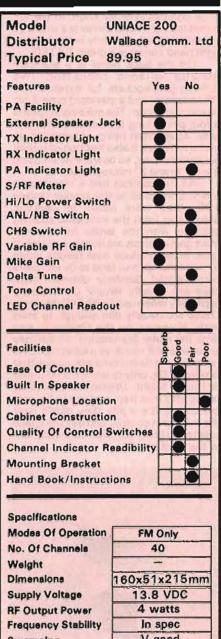
Inevitably, it is going to be compared with the various Cybernet offerbeing similarly priced and specified. A fair judgement is probably that the Uniden has a slightly better receiver in terms of swamping, whilst the Cybernet has slightly better audio performance, both transmitting and receiving.

The next question is - is it worth the extra cost over the Uniace 100? Well, the receiver is so good that unless you are operating on a big twig in a congested area, you rarely have to touch the RF gain control. Similarly, the mike gain produces the best results flat out. On the other hand, the improved spacing on the front panel does make it much easier to operate whilst mobile, and the dimmer working on the meter illumination eases eye-strain at night. So if you operate a lot from home base, or do a lot of mileage at night, it probably is worth the extra. If you don't do either you'll be just as well off with the smaller Uniace 100. In either case you will have spent your money wisely.

The official list price of Uniden rigs is still a bit on the high side. One or two places are discounting them heavily, though, and this makes them a highly attractive proposition. In either case, if you can live with the side mounted mike connector, you will have one of the best rigs currently available.

Our thanks to Uniden for supplying us with the review sample.

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Equipment Review



Andy R Giles has been playing with a device that should help those of you who would like a little more privacy on the air. It's a selective calling unit that can be used with any rig.

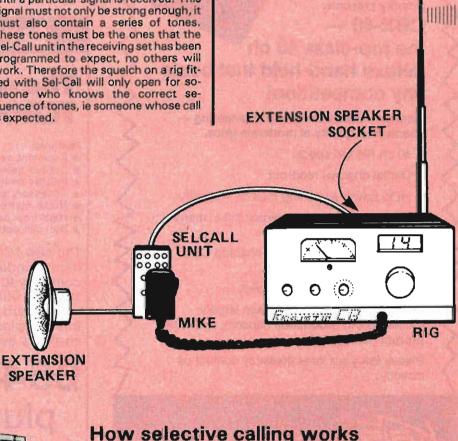


The Datong Codecall 4096

SELCALL CALLING

or those of you who missed the selective calling article in our April '82 issue, here's a brief explanation of how the system works. When an ordinary CB rig transmits to another CB rig, it is only the strength of the signal that determines whether or not the second set's squelch opens, assuming that both rigs are on the same channel. The higher the setting of the squelch on rig B, the stronger the signal from rig A has to be to openit. Unfortunately, any signal that is strong enough will also cause the squelch to open and when it has opened, it allows all signals to come through, skip, sidebanders, bleedover from adjacent channels, in fact, anything that is within range. Adding a Sel-Call unit to a rig will not stop all these other signals coming through once the squelch has opened, but it will stop it from opening until a particular signal is received. This signal must not only be strong enough, it must also contain a series of tones. These tones must be the ones that the Sel-Call unit in the receiving set has been programmed to expect, no others will work. Therefore the squelch on a rig fitted with Sel-Call will only open for so-meone who knows the correct sequence of tones, ie someone whose call is expected.

I know several people who had hoped to be able to use CB to talk to their wives while on the way home from work but this has been made impossible by the number of dummies who pollute the airwaves with the outpourings of their deranged minds. I've even known embittered Fleet Street journalists blush at some of the things that they have heard on the air and so it is not surprising to find that most wives are reluctant to have a rig turned on while they are alone in the house. Even if they are just monitoring and do not try to use it to talk to anyone, it can be very disconcerting to have the squelch open every time the rig picks up a strong enough signal, usually from a bucketmouth.



If the set being monitored has Sel-Call fitted, no unexpected signals can open the squelch, no matter how strong they are. This would allow a wife to monitor for as long as she likes because the only signal that she could hear would be from her husband. Once the squelch has opened, the set will perform in exactly the same way as before and all the rubbish will be heard in the background, but that should not matter too much because the required signal should be strong enough to be heard or the Sel-Call tones would not have got through.

Enter Datong

Sel-Call has been available for commercial radios for a long time but it has always been very expensive, at least £50 per unit, plus the cost of fitting it inside the radio. Now a company that specialises in making amateur radio equipment, Datong Ltd, has introduced an inexpensive Sel-Call unit that does not have to be wired into the rig and which is very simple to use. It's called the Codecali 4096 and two units are needed for the system to work, one on each rig. Each unit is a tone generator and a tone decoder, all contained in a plastic case that is about the size of a packet of cigarettes, depending on what you smoke. A PP3 battery also fits inside the case and provides the power. They draw so little current that a battery should last for a long time.

Each unit is supplied with a length of cable with a 3.5mm jack plug fitted to each end. One of these fits into a socket on the unit and the other goes into the extension speaker socket on the rig. This is the only connection to the rig. An extension speaker can then be plugged into the other socket on the unit and that's all there is to it, Sel-Call has now been fitted.

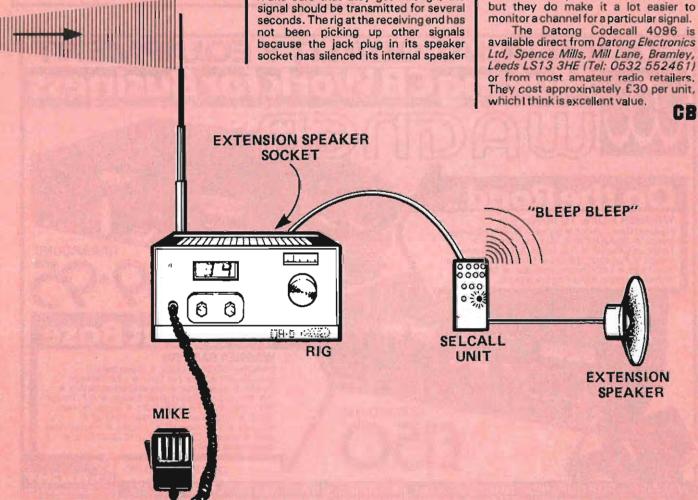
The front panel of each Codecall has three rotary switches on it, each with fifteen numbered positions and so the possible permutations are enormous 4096 to be exact (16 x 16 x 16), hence the name of the device. The two users must first agree which settings they are going to use eg 9 7 13, or 0 3 5. These numbers are then entered on the appropriate switches and the units connected to the rigs. The rig's squelch and volume must be adjusted according to the instructions so that there is enough volume to drive the units but apart from that there is no other setting up to do when fitting them. When one user wants to call the other, he has to place his microphone against the section on the Codecall's front panel marked 'Coded Bleep Output' and then press the switch on the top of the device. This causes a stream of high pitched warbling sounds to be sent down the microphone and transmitted. These sounds contain the code and to make sure that they get through, the signal should be transmitted for several seconds. The rig at the receiving end has not been picking up other signals because the jack plug in its speaker socket has silenced its internal speaker

and no sound can get out past the Codecall. However, when the coded signal is received, the Codecalll recognises it and reacts by starting to bleep and an LED on its front panel also lights. If there is nobody there to answer the call, the light will stay on and the unit will continue to bleep for ten minutes. If will then give up and go back to standby. If there is someone there to answer, all he has to do is press the 'L.S. OFF' button and the external speaker will be activated and the two rigs can then be used to hold a normal conversation. When he wants to reset the Codecall for the next call, he must press the 'L.S. OFF' button again and this will cut off the extension speaker normally, it is not necessary to disconnect everything, leaving the button in the 'out' position allows all signals to be heard on the extension speaker.

Conclusion

We experimented with these gadgets for several weeks and found that they work very well. There were no operational problems, apart from the signal not getting through but that was nothing to do with the units. We found that it is a good idea to transmit the tones for at least five seconds in order to make sure that the receiving unit had time to recognise them, especially if there is a lot of background noise on the channel. As I said before, these units will not turn a noisy channel into a clear one but they do make it a lot easier to

The Datong Codecall 4096 is



It's easy to complain about advertisements.

The Advertising Standards Authority If an advertisement is wrong, we're here to put it right.

A.S.A. Ltd., Brook House, Torrington Place, London WCIE 7HN.

HAM INTERNATIONAL MAIN DEALERS FOR SOUTH & WEST WALES

CBT. 1 Prince of Wales Road, Swansea. (0792) 463821

VIKING

PUMA

Multimode II Concorde II Jumbo II	Multimode III Concorde III Jumbo III (1983 models)
Ham Frequency Counter plug	s into Ham models £39.99 (c)
Sies Reverberators	£26.00 (c)
Bleedover crystal for most rig	S£6.99 (a)
Circuit Diagrams for Ham mo	dels£1.00 (a)
Service Manuals for Ham mo-	dels£6.00 (b)
Handbox for Ham models (Ex	cept Jumbo)£3.00 (a)

Handbooks for Jumbo II£6.00 (b) Are you looking for new fronts and spares for your HAM, then we can supply them. Most HAM spares will fit many other rigs.

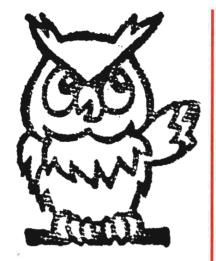
Please allow 28 days for delivery.

(b) £1.00 Postage: (a) 50p (c) £1.50

To obtain your catalogue on all HAM International equipment send £1 to CB.T, 1 Prince of Wales Road, Swansea. This catalogue includes MM III, Concorde III, Jumbo III.

ACCESS AND BARCLAYCARD ACCEPTED





QSL card swopping is an international hobby. Multi coloured cards for you to wallpaper your room with. Here Medicman introduces you to the world of the QSL...

COMMUNICATION THE



ong before Aunty Mary arrived in the UK we were in constant contact with CBers across the world, and totally legal! This was our introduction to the world of QSLing, or wallpaper as it is known in the States. Of course, it was not until the advent of the now-demised BANDSTAND duplicated CB newsletter that QSLers in the UK were able to contact each other and, I distinctly remember, the first UK cardswapper who advertised a 1-4-1 swap of his personal card, he now writes under the nom-de-plume of Charlie Hotel in

another CB Magazine, and we have kept in touch all of that time. That's the friendship to be had for the price of a few personalised postcards.

OSLing is simply the postal exchange of postcards that you have had printed with a design which illustrates your Handle, Call sign or Station, and it is always polite to include a few small givaways and generally follow a certain code of QSLing that has evolved over the past few years which, if followed, will bring you mail from friends all over the World — the brotherhood of CB worldwide really is that strong.

The Citizens' Band Code of OSLing

try and include some little

extras, such as view

ALWAYS ALWAYS	send 2 or 3 of your cards. include 1 or 2 of your		postcards or brochures of places of local interest —
ALWATS	friends cards.		especially to overseas contacts.
ALWAYS	personalise your card with a greeting, and where you received your contacts name from.	DON'T	Send 1 card and expect to receive 6 in return.
ALWAYS	number of cards you	DON'T	receive 6 cards and send 1 in return.
ALWAYS	receive. pay the correct postage	DON'T	send cards Surface Mail and expect an answer in a
	for Airmail or Surface Mail.		week.
ALWAYS	QSL back for each one you receive or you will soon be blacklisted in the QSL World.	DON'T	send scraps of paper with your name and address scrawled on them, they usually end up in the
ALWAYS	use your club rubber stamps and unit number on your cards.		waste bin where they belong.
ALWAYS	try to exchange 1-4-1 col- our and black and white cards.	DON'T	forget to include your name and address on all cards, you will not get any
ALWAYS	,		replies unless you do so!
	memorative postage stamps.	DON'T	join a QSL swap club unless you QSL 100%.

ALWAYS

Clubs only work for you

when you do your part.

QSL Club Of The Month:

THE BRITISH CONCORDE INTERNATIONAL CB-QSL CLUB

On record as the second British QSL club to be formed the 'Concorde' as it has become known was established just two years ago, and has maintained a set standard which many other clubs have failed to achieve. The 'Concorde' was the first British club to offer a full mounted club rubber stamp where many others offered the poor unmounted rubber impression only. As with most clubs, part of the membership fee is ten of your own signed and dated personalised QSL cards, but Picture Postcards are acceptable by this club if you are a newcomer to the hobby. For you are a newcomer to the hobby. For your QSL cards and a membership fee of

1) Club membership card 2) Membership Certificate

3) Club rubber stamp 4) Club I.D. Wallet

5) Club QSL labels 6) Club pen 7) Club key ring

8) Club QSL cards

9) Members exchange QSL cards O) London Tourist Information



11) Invitations of other clubs 12) List of good QSL addresses

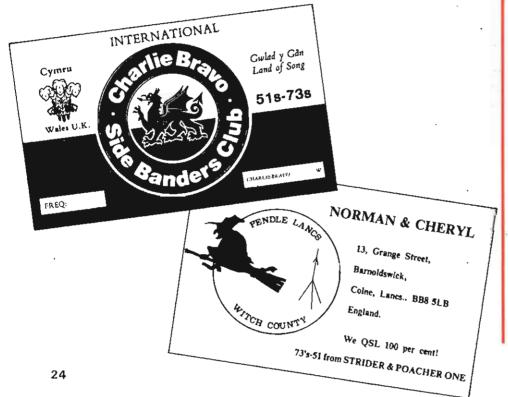
13) Club newsletter

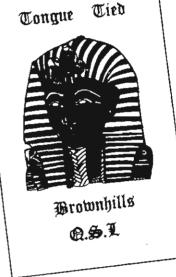
14) XYL Unit Number (If required) 15) Other items as available

Currently with over 800 members from 22 countries the club boasts some 40 different personalised club cards which have fast become a collectors theme, and are highly sought after in the QSL world. If you require further details of the club or a membership form please send a stamped addressed envelope to the above address.

As you can see the basic rules are quite simple, and usually within a month of starting QSLing the cards of radio friendship start arriving from all parts of the world, many bringing lifelong friendships. I have firm friends now in many parts of the USA, Canada, New Zealand, West Germany, Holland, Austria, Switzerland and Australia, all gained through CB-QSLing, and many have extended an open invitation for a personal visit to them.

So how do you start QSLing? Quite simply the only requirement is a printed personalised postcard. Many printers throughout the country are well versed in the production of superb QSL cards, from the basic starter, the cards I began my hobby with, produced by DERWENT PRESS of 69, Langstone Drive, Exmouth, Devon EX8 4HZ. This firm will





for 25 pence in stamps, send you a sample selection of the QSL cards they produce using standard printing designs which can be chosen to make some very attractive QSL cards in up to six colours. If you want to go in at the deep end on superb full colour artist drawn cards then many specialists have come to light during the past few months. Perhaps the best known of these is the COOKY'S QSL SERIES designed and printed by PAPA BRAVO INTERNATIONAL CB-QSL CLUB run by Andy Cookson of P.O. Box 48, Preston, Lancs. Chris Darlington of the HAPPY COBBLERS QSL CLUB at P.O. Box 99, Northampton has recently come onto the QSL scene in a big way with some excellent full colour cards.

Now we have our prized new QSL cards, how do we go about making some QSL contacts? Probably the best way is to join a reputable QSL-Swap club, but beware as many rip-off merchants have unfortunately crept into an otherwise respectable hobby. Be guided by the number of your correspondents cards you see with a particular clubs rubber stamp on them, obviously the more you see a club mentioned usually the better it is. To assist newcomers some of the better clubs are listed below:-

ANGLO AMERICAN MAGNA CARTA INTERNATIONAL SIDEBANDERS Coronation House, Tolcarne Road, Newquay, Comwall HAPPY COBBLERS DX QSL CLUB P.O. Box 99, Northampton SIERRA VICTOR INTERNATIONAL DX-QSL CLUB 43, Greedeon Rise, Leicestershire LE12 7TE **BRITISH CONCORDE INTERNA-**TIONAL **CB-QSL CLUB** 187, Walton Road, East Molesey. Surrey KT8 ODY PAPA BRAVO INTERNATIONAL DX & **QSL CLUB** P.O. Box 48, Preston,

Lancs.



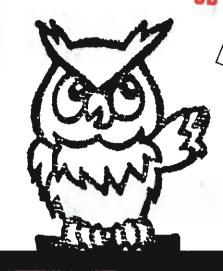
These are some of the Clubs with the best reputation in the UK which have constantly upheld a good club package, and a reasonably quick return of membership applications. We have on file some 500 QSL clubs throughout the world, some long established, some quite suspect, so carefully check-out the clubs you have decided to patronise. Most good QSL clubs offer a fully mounted rubber stamp. A long serving QSLer will belong to many clubs and will normally display the club stamps on their cards. An average membership fee is normally between £5 to £6 and for that you can expect to receive a selection of QSL goodies including a Club Membership Certificate, Club Member-

ship card, Membership wallet, perhaps a club keyring and pen, club QSL cards and swap cards and various other items of interest including tourist information. Tips on QSLing and, some clubs, offer a woven club patch — a very nice touch.

Well, that's what it's all about, friendship through radio - worldwide, and what better way to make friends? if you are new to QSLing I envy you — you still have the thrill of making your first overseas QSL contacts. I have over six thousand different QSLs now, but I still enjoy receiving every last one of them such is QSLing when you get hooked.

If you decided to have some QSLs designed please send them along, we might even make QSLing a regular feature in CITIZENS'BAND.





Citizens' Band Magazine: Good QSL Contacts

SUSAN SD25

WENDY - Tongue Tied

PAUL SAUNDERS

DERIK BARR

KEN B036

DAVID MAGUIRE

SHANE COOPER

DAVID SANDERSON

COLIN SWT 04

JOHN GREENWAY

JIM Deilsel Doctor

DARYL Mighty Midge

S.W. Parramore

CHRIS HUMPHRIES

DAVID & JACKIE COOPER

P.O. Box 27, Southport, Merseyside. 107, Howdles Lane, Brownhills,

Walsall WS8 7PJ, West Midlands. 9, Arlesey Road, Henlow,

Bedfordshire.

P.O. Box 424, Tweedale, Telford, Shropshire.

P.O. Box 16, Southsea, PO4 8EP,

Hants.

16, Kilmacormick Drive, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh,

Northern Ireland. 61, Limes Avenue, Brierley Hill,

Dudley, West Midlands DY5 1PG. 7, Sunderland Avenure, Hambleton, Nr Blackpool,

Lancashire.

Cottswold CB Centre, 56, High Street, Glouscester.

7, Kenilworth House, Princess

Elizabeth Way, Hesterway, Cheltenham, Glos. 4, Tinwald View, Locharbriggs, Dumfries, Scotland. DG1 1RT

31, Medlock Avenue, Fleetwood, FY7 8DE. P.O. Box 1128, D 4513 Belm,

West Germany (British Breaker). 95, Greenock Crescent, Stirchley, Birmingham B30 2TD

9, Greenfield, Caldicot, Newport, Gwent.

ALEX BLACK Squeezebox

PETER EVANS

JEREMY HUNT

D.J. WALLING

JOHN

TOM QUINN

GLADYS CHERVEN

THE WARNER FAMILY

LORNA JONES

PAUL DUNSTER

ANDREAS DAMM

ED SMITH

BERT

MAURICIO MACHADO

25, Warmanbie Road, Brydekirk, Annian, Dunfiresshire.

90, Caecoed, Llanybie Ammanford, Dyfed SA18 3UG, South Wales.

12, Meadow Close, Hockley Heath, Solihull, Warwickshire B94

152, North Lonsdale Road,

Ulverston, Cumbria LA12 9DZ; P.D. Box 162, 4530 A.D. Terneuzen, Netherlands. 11, Main Arm Road,

Mullumbimby, New South Wales, Australia 2482.

P.O. Box 80541, South Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada V5H

P.O. Box 202, Oakwood, Illinois 61858, U.S.A. P.O. Box 116, Otaki, New

Zealand.

P.O. Box 855, Fremantle 6160, Western Australia.

P.O. Box 1252, 5439 Bad Marienberg, West Germany. P.O. Box 14, Lansdowne 7780, Cape Town, South Africa. P.O. Box 3011, 3130 CA

Vlaardingen, Holland. P.O. Box 27, Parnaiba, 64200

Piaui, Brazil.

CITIZENS' BAND FEBRUARY 1983

Commen



Winter isn't so much of a wonderland when you're stuck in a traffic jam or snowdrift. How is CB going to help the motorist? Will CBers cooperate? Can CB make driving safer this winter? We have the questions — but do we have the answers?



Travel Hazards

For him or her it is a totally different matter. Flat batteries, damp engines,snow and ley roads coupled with the madman who speeds in fog tend to neke their journey in the winter a ghtmare. Accidents do and will hapben even when everyone concerned is taking the utmost care. Local authorities working on reduced

from time to time, turned a blind eye to the illegal rig that had summoned them to the site of one disaster or another. This year things could be much better or worse depending upon three unknowns

Questions

Will the wallies recognise the value of the emergency services to the motorist

and cease their summer activity of balting the monitors?

Will organisations such as REACT, THAMES, AIM and ALERT — to name but four of the many — have a sufficient number of trained monitors to give the sort of cover that is so very necessary if a motorist is to put any faith in the use of his CB should disaster strike?

Will people with CB radios be prepared to help each other out of the tight spots?

Answers?

The answer to the lest one is fairly certain or at least it was in the old days of the brotherhood of the AM CBers. Not only were they willing to help but they were keen to do to the ten to show that CBers were not all the whors and that CB had an important and valuable role to play toward the general well-being of the community. They were and, I suspect from frequent encounters with them, still are, a bunch of people enjoying the good natured spirit of the innovators they were.

novators they were.

How different is it today? How different is this winter going to be with

the new one year old breed of CBer on the channels? Well, indications up to now tend towards the FM breakers not being quite so cooperative. In many ways the old pioneering spirit has vanished. More wallies are now on channel than there ever were pre-legalisation. I mean more percentage wise considering the amount of breakers on channel then and now. This winter will be their first real test. This winter will certainly prove or disprove the value of CB to the motorist and I for one look ahead with some apprehension to those long road-slick drives to the South Coast or to the shows and trade fairs of the Nerth.

Emergency Rigs

Many motorists who are in no way considered to be Breakers will be persuaded to equip themselves with CBs—either straight forward mobiles or with one of the many emergency rigs currently available. They will set off with that small chunk of added security in the glove compartment, fingers crossed and hoping that many of the things about CBers that they read in the popular press are as without foun-

date as many of the other things that they need and feel to be either untrue or exagerated. Well, when the crunch comes — excuse the metaphor — I believe whether or not they know a Roge D from their elbow, a call for assistance reaching another breaker will be responded to. If I didn't believe that I would chuck in my rig tomorrow.

Public Relations

As much as I dislike the term Good Buddy let's show people, the press included, that properly used CB is a great service. We can do that by saving a few lives and a few heartaches this winter. So keep your CB on and your eyes peeled and if somebody needs help give it to them and talk about it as much as you can afterwards. After all we are our own Public Relations officers and not too many people will find anything good to say about CB if we don't.

The Editor would like to hear reports from readers who helped or were helped by the use of CB Radio this winter. Letters only please.

CB

CB Citizens Band

MARCH ISSUE WILL BE ON SALE FRIDAY 18 FEBRUARY

NEXT NONTH

The articles mentioned are in an advanced state of preparation but circumstances may affect the final contents

March is the month for mad hares and those mad people from Britain's leading CB monthly are primed to bring you a magnificent, majestic magazine filled with a multitude of mobiles together with a miscellary of magical equipment. Don't miss it!

Andy R. Giles, fresh from his success as Santa Claus at a downtown store, explores the wonders of his bestest Chrissy pressy. He's turned on to Scanners in a big way and tells you just what goes on inside and out of the Bearcat 250.

Brian W. Wright, ageing breaker and master of the frosted tubes takes a Copperstik out and about. Captain Pugwash jaws while the Actual Ace draws! Together this dutiful duo bring you the facts on an unusual looking mobile antenna.

Chris Peterson is back on the ball with the Wagner Base Station that looks as if it will do everything except make the tea! Mike Newbold — the Medicman — will be delving deeper into his bumper bundle of QSL cards and give you the latest on

this exciting hobby. Smart Alec will try to answer some more of your posers and Little Kev will be putting together the second feature for Junior Breakers and, if he can get through the mountain of mail, inform the lucky winners of the results of the Battleship Competition.

There will be a feature article, the results of the crossword competition and, of course, of Mack the Hack will be rambling on about something or other.

All of this and more for just 80p? Can't be bad can it?

COMPETITION

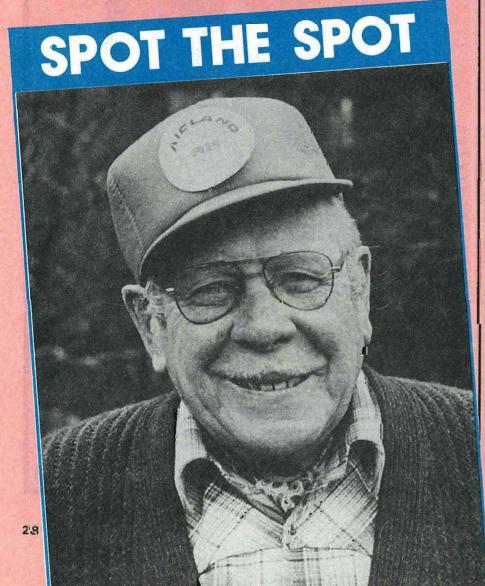
Here it is, the competition to utterly confound you - the competition that is a real splitter of infinitives. Remember Citizens' Band brought you Battleships and the easiest crossword in the world? Yes sir this is the page for invention and initiative - pit your wits against the team that brought you Shuttlecock A-Doodle-Do, the creme dé la creme of CB journalism -Spot the Spot if you dare. Yes folks somewhere on the time worn visage of this young at heart ageing breaker was a spot, a pimple of some magnitude, a beauteroony of a facebound bunion long since removed by a deft stroke of the surgeon's knife. We challenge you to put an X on the spot vacated by the spot!

Binatone have entered into the spirit of things by offering one of their fine Long Ranger 40's to the breaker who gets the nearest and we will throw in a couple of runners up prizes to the next to nearest spot spotters.

If you do not like to cut your mag up — we know how precious they are to you — then trace the face! Oh and by the way anybody who happens to know this good of breaker will have no advantage...cos Kev moved the spot!

Don't desget the rules.

No employees of ASP and ellowed to error (they have all got spots before the eye's arroway). All entries most be hare by second por Finelay 18th February. The Tolkon's declaring is final, and, don't forger you'r fame and address, sintries to Spot the Spot competition, Crimens' Bard, ASP Ltd. 14 5 Charing Cross Read, London WC 2H OFE.



CITE SECTION



Over one hundred and fifty rigs and twigs are listed in the following pages. Remember to shop around for the best buy as prices vary considerably from retailer to retailer. **REMEMBER** if you buy too cheaply off a fly by night dealer you will have problems if the rig breaks down.

REMEMBER nicad batteries are the best bet if you are working a portable.

REMEMBER back numbers are available at £1.25 from 513 London Road Thornton Heath, Surrey if you want to check up on a specific rig report.

F M RIG CHECKLIST

M	OBILES Listed he the curre available rigs.	re are ntly mobile CB	NO.OF CHANNELS	,		
NAME	ADDRESSES	MODEL	CHA.	SUPPLY VOLȚAGE	RETAIL PRICE	
ALBA	Alba (Electronics) Ltd. Bull Lane, Edmonton N18	CBMI 40	40	13.8VDC	ТВА	
AMSTRAD	Amstrad Consumar Electronics, 1-7 Garman Road, London N17	CB 901	40	13,8VDC	£89	
AUDIO LINE		341	40	13.8VDC	£106	
AUDIO LINE	CB Radio Centre, 337 Kenton Rd, Harrow Mddx	340	40	13.8VDC	£80	
AUDIO LINE		342	40	13.2VD¢	£149.95	
BARRACUDA	Halfords Motor Accessory Shops	GT 868	40	13.8VDC	£70	
BARRACUDA		HP 940	40	13.8VDC	£85	
BINATONE	Binatone House, Beresford Av, Wambley, Mddx	8REAKERPHONE	40	13.8VDC	£99	
BINATONE		BEAMBRÉAKER	40	13.8VDC	£79.95	
BINATONE	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE	ROUTE 66	40	13.8VDC	£79.95	
BINATONE	CONTROL OF THE PARTY OF THE PARTY OF	SPEEDWAY	40	13.8VDC	£69.95	
BINATONE		5-STAR	40	13.8VDC	£100	
BRAEMAR	Geminex Overseas, 348 Kings Rd. SW3 6UZ	BRAEMAR	40	13.8VDC	£TBA	
COBRA	Mura (UK) Ltd, High Rd, Willesdon, NW10	21 X FM	40	13.8VDC	£79	
COLT	Shellpost, 183 The Rock, Bury, Lance	295	140	13.8VDC	£80	
COMMTRON	Roger D, 831 Mansfield Rd, Notts	CB40F	40	13.8VDC	£70	
COMMTRON		CXX	40	13.8VDC	£95	
CYBERNET	Goodmans Loudspeakers Ltd, Downley Road, Havant, Hants POD 2NL.	8ETA 1000	40	13.8VDC	£70	
CYBERNET		BETA 2000	40	13.8VDC	£85	
CYBERNET	DE PROPERTO DE LA COMPETATION DEL COMPETATION DE LA COMPETATION DE	BETA 3000	40	13.8VDC	£100	
DNT	Radiotechnics Ltd. Grove Way, Bel Royal, St Lawrence Jersey Cl	M40FM SPECIAL	40	13.8VDC	£100	
ELFTONE	4 Beresford Av, Wembley, Mddx. HAO 1YA	. ELCB 6000	40	13.8VDC	£TBA	
EUROCOMM	Zycomm Electronics, Ripley, Derbyshire	EURO 40	40	13.8VDC	£69	
FIDELITY	Fidelity Radio Ltd. Victoria Rd, London NW10	CB 1000M	40	13.8VDC	£70	
FIDELITY		CB 2000M	40	13.8VDC	£90	
FIDELITY		20001 FM	40	13.8VDC	£70	
GRANDSTAND	Bee-Ware Ltd, Ripon Way, Harrogete, N. Yorks	BLUEBIRD	40	13.8VDC	£90	
GRANDSTAND	Des Trace Ltd, (upper tray, realistate), it. 1970	HAWK	40		£80	
GRANDSTAND		GEMINI	40	13.8VDC	£122	
GREAT	Brittania Trading, Northern Rd, Sudbury, Suffolk	GT 8588			£65	
HAM INT.	25 Buckland Road, Leicester	EXPLORER	40	13.8VDC		
HAM INT.	20 Bucklatid Ruled, Edicaster	MARINER	40	13.8VDC	£75	
HARRIER	Disco Physical Control of the Contro	CB MOBILE	40	13.8VDC	£110	
HARRIER	Dixons Fliotographic Ltd.	CB X	40_	13.8VDC	£49	
HARVARD	Hants Overseas Ltd. Harvard House, 14-16 Thames Rd. Barking, Essex	400M	40	13.8VDC	£89.99	
HARVARD	There's O' The Seas City, Harvard House, 14-10 Thames Rd. Darking, Essex	402 MPA	40	13.8VDC	£80	
		H403 GOOD BUDDY	40	13.8VDC	£69.95	
HARVARD		420M	40	13.8VDC	£50	
HARVARD	Obdes OR Cours 72 77 Biosci Dd Co	INTERCEPTOR	40	13.8VDC	£100	
INTERCEPTOR	Chelses CB Centre, 73-77 Brittenia Rd, London	TC400	40	13.8VDC	£80	
INTERCEPTOR		ONE HANDER	40	13.8VDC	£95	
INTERCEPTOR			40	13.8VDC	£100	
JOHNSON	Ster Warahouse, Chalk Farm Rd, London	JOHNSON	40	13.8VDC	£50	
JWR	Wallfe House, Norse Rd, Bedford MK41 OLF	M2	40	13.8VDC	£60	
EWD		BA2.	LAA	42 QVDC	0.00	



On the following pages you will find listed just about all of the CB rigs available for use on UKFM CB. We have split the reference section into three parts; mobile base and portable to make individual rigs easier to find.

	валетсн	NB SWITCH	ANL SWITCH	MIKE GAIN	RF GAIN	TONE CONTROL	S/RF METER	S/RF LED R/O	ні/со оптрит	PA FACILITY	EX. SPEAKER JACK	TX IND. LIGHT	RX IND. LIGHT	сн 9 şwітсн	MIKE POSITION	COMMENTS	CB 27/81
	•		To the same of		•							•	•		FL		ALBA
						•		•			•				SL	Report Feb '82	AMSTRAD
				•	•	•		ME.	•	•		•			SL		AUDIOLINE
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	•				100		•		•	•	•			•	FL		COMMTRON
	•						•	21.2		•	•				FL		COMMTRON
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	•				0		•		•		•	•			FL	Report July '82	DNT
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	•								•	•		•	•		FL		EUROCOMM
	•						•		•		•				SL		FIDELITY
				•	•	•			•	•	•			•	FL	Report March '82	FIDELITY
			100	•	•	•	•		•	•		711		•	FL		FIDELITY
	•				100			200	•						SL		GRANDSTAND
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		•					1000		-				•		SL	Same as Jahassa ri-	GRANDSTAND GREAT
	•		200	70	125		•	249.7	•						FL	Same as Johnson rig	HAM INT.
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	OBILES contin		NO. OF CHANNELS	SUPPLY	RETAIL
NAME	ADDRESSES	MODEL	žö	VOLTAGE	PRICE
KAISER	Kalser Electronics Nevrottstresse 21-25, Waldorf Baden, W. Germany	UK 40	40	13.8VDC	£TBA
LADYLINE	Market Drayton, Selop	QUASAR	40	13.8VDC	£80
LAKE	Roger D, 831 Mansfield Rd, Nottingham NG6 3GF	MANXMAN 850	40	13.8VDC	£32.50
LAKE		MANXMAN 950	40	13.8VDC	£37.50
LCL	LCL Imports Ltd, 101 Dixons Green, Dudley, W. Midlands	2740	40	13.8VDC	083
LCL		COMMUNICATOR	40	13.8VDC	£95
LOWE	Lowe Electronics, Matlock, Derbyshire	TX 40 KESTREL	40	13.8VDC	£50
MANOR	Menor National Group, Oxford Rd. M/cr AMT AM House 9a Olds Approach, Tolpits Lane, Watford Herts.	4E	40	13.8VDC	£99
MAXCOM	ANT ANT HOUSe de Olde Approach, Tolpits Lene, Hellold Hells.	6E	40	13.8VDC	£50
MAXCOM		20E	40	13.8VDC	£48
MAXCOM		21E	40	13:8VDC	£50 £50
MAXCOM		16E	40	13.8VDC 13.8VDC	£40
MICROLINK	Warmen-Freed Ltd, 82 Golders Gn Rd, NW11	CB401	40	13.8VDC	£115
MIDLAND	Plustronics Ltd, Hempstelle Ln, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs.	2001	40	13.8VDC	£70
MIDLAND		3001	40	13.8VDC	£80
MIDLAND		4001	40	13.8VDC	£90
MIDLAND		2001 T	40	13.8VDC	£100
MUSTANG	KB & Co Ltd, 202 Cheetham Hilt Rd, M/cr.	CB1000	40	13.8VDC	£49.95
MUSTANG		CB2000	40	13.8VDC	£59.95
MUSTANG		CB3000	40	13.8VDC	£69.95
NATO	Roger D, 831 Menefield Rd, Nottingham NGS 3GF	40M	40	13.8VDC	£ 69.95
NATO		2000	40	13.BVDC	£167.95
OSCAR	S.M.C. Osborne House, Totton. Southempton	OSCAR1	40	13.8VDC	£85
RADIOMOBILE	Goodwood Wks, North Circular Rd, London NW2 7JS	201	40	13.8VDC	£80-90
RADIOMOSILE		202	40	13.8VDC	£120
REFTEC	RF Technology, Leyton Avenue ind Est, Mildenhall, Suffolk	934	20	13.8VDC	200
ROTEL	Rotel Hi-Fi, 2-4 Erica Rd, Stacey Bushes, Milton Keynes	RVC 220	40	13.8VDC	£50
ROTEL		RVC 230	40	13.8VDC	£70
ROTEL		RVC 240	40	13.8VDC	£90
SAPPHIRE	CB Services 87 Crab Lane, Harrogate, North Yorks	2000X	40	13.8VDC	£68
SHOGUN	Colliers Fm, Frieth, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon RG6 6NR	SHOGUN	40	13.8VDC	£100
SIRTEL	24 Alfric Sq. Off Maxwell Rd, Woodston Ind Est. Peterborough	SEARCHER	40	13.8VDC	£40
SPIRIT	Martello Sound Ltd, Haywood Way, Ivyhouse Lane, Hestings	SPIRIT	40	12VDC	£100
STEEPLETONE	Park End Works, Croughton, Nr Brackley, Northants	SCB1FM	40	13.8VDC	£103
TANDY	Tame Way Tower, Bridge St, Walsell,	TRC2001	40	13.8VDC	£80
TANDY		TRC2002	40	13.8VDC	£70
TANDY		TRC2000	40	13.8VDC	£100
TANDY		TRC1004	40	12VDC	£79
TANDY		TRC 2003	40	12VDC	£130
TENVOX	Voxon Audio Ltd, Abingdon, Oxon	TENVOX	40	13.8VDC	£100
UNIDEN		UNI ACE 100	40	13.8VDC	£70
UNIDEN		UNI ACE 200	40	13.8VDC	£90
VIPER	Redio 88, Barking, Essex	VIPER 88	40	13.8VDC	£85
WESTERN	Western Electronics, Fairfield Esteta, Louth, Notts.	COMPACT 40	40	13.8VDC	£34.50
YORK	Sulkin (UK) Ltd. 73 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DD.	JCB 861	40	13.8VOC	£69
YORK	AND THE STATE OF STAT	JCB 863	40	13.8VDC	£89
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	SQUELCH	NB SWITCH	ANL SWITCH	MIKEGAIN	RF GAIN	TONE CONTROL	S/RF'METER	S/RF LED R/O	нило оптрит	PA FACILITY	EX. SPEAKER JACK	TX IND. LIGHT	RX IND. LIGHT	9 Ѕ₩ІТСН	MIKE POSITION		CB 27/81
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BAS HAN	E STATIONS - ID HELDS		NO. OF CHANNELS		
NAME	ADDRESSES	MODEL	호호	SUPPLY VOLTAGE	RETAIL PRICE
- William	lt's much more fun breaking from home when the car's too cold to start – and it saves		*	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	and the second
5007667	petroll		↓		
DNT	Redictechnics Ltd. Grove Way, Sel Royal, St Lawrence Jersey Cl	B40	40	240VAC	ETBA
DNT	March Checkball Control of the Contr	B2740	40	240VAC	£TBA
DNT	No. of the state o	B5040	40	240VAC	£TBA
FIDELITY	Fidelity Radio Ltd, Victoria Rd, London NW10	CB 300M	40	240VAC	ETBA
GRANDSTAND	Bee-Ware Ltd, Ripon Way, Heregate, N. Yorka	BASE	40	240VAC	£220
HAM INT.	25 Buckland Rd, Leicester	HERCULES	40	240VAC	£170
HARRIER	Dixona Photographic Ltd,	СВНО	40	240VAC	£130
HARVARD	Harris Overseas Ltd, Harvard House, 14-16 Themes Rd, Barking Essex	H407	40	240VAC	£125
HARVARD		H401	40	240VAC	£149.95
JOHNSON	Star Warehouse Chaft Farm Rd, London	XK 2000	, 40	240VAC	699
JWR	Woolfs House, Norse Rd, Bedford	76-200	40	240VAC	£194
MIDLAND	Plustronix Ltd, Hempstalis Ln, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs.	BASE	40	240VAC	£150 £100
SPIRIT	Murphy Electronica, Wembley, Middlesex Martello Sound Ltd, Haywood Way, hyhouse Lane, Hastings, Sussex	SPIRIT	40	240VAC .	£100
	Why not get out and about with a portable rig? Not only is it fun, there's fresh air too.				10.11.0
BEAR	Air Bear(UK) Ltd, Wortley, Sheffield	RHB 35	3	BATTERIES	£44
BINATONE	Binatone House, Beresford Av., Wernbley, Middx.	LONGRANGER	6/12	BATTERIES	£60
DNT	Rediotechnics Ltd. Grove Way, Bel Royal, St Lawrence Jersey Cl	HF 12/3	3	BATTERIES	£47.55
ELFTONE	4 Berseford Av, Wembley, Mikidx.	CB30	2	BATTERIES	ETBA
ELFTONE		P-3	3	BATTERIES	ЕТВА
HARRIER	Dixone Photographic Ltd	WT1	. 2	BATTERY	£25
HARRIER		WT2	40	BATTERY	£69.99
HARVARD	Harris Oversees Ltd, Harryard House, 14-16 Themes Rd, Berking Essex	0-2-0	2	BATTERY	£20
HARVARD		410T	40	8xAA celle	£89.95
HARVARD		10-4 CONVOY	2	BATTERY	£19.96
HARVARD	CANCEL SERVICE CONTRACTOR AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROPERTY O	H6	2	BATTERY	£29.95
KAISER	Kelser Electronics Nevrottstrasse 21-25, Waldorf Berden, W. Germany	CBX40	40	BATTERY	£TBA
MAXCOM	AMT AM House 9a Olda Ap-proach, Toipits Lane, Watford Herts.	7E	40	12VDC	£79
MIDLAND	Plustronix Ltd, Hempateilla Ln, Newcestle-under-Lyrne, Staffs.	76-720	3	BATTERY	ETBA
IMIT	Teme Way Tower, Bridge St. Walsali	TRC1001	40	12VDC	£119
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REFERENCE

	SQUELCH	NB SWITCH	ANL SWITCH	MIKE GAIN	RF GAIN	TONE CONTROL	S/RF METER	S/RF LED R/O	HI/LO OUTPUT	PA FACILITY	EX. SPEAKER JACK	TX IND. LIGHT	RX IND. LIGHT	сн 9 ѕwпсн	MIKE POSITION	COMMENTS	CB 27/81
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	•							III. NO.			-	•			-		MIDLAND
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ANTENNA CHECKLIST

The Home Office specs for CB antennas are lean and bordering on the mean. Still within that basic framework manufacturers have come up with some good designs. This newly laid out antenna checklist should help you decide on the antenna for you!

the antenna f	t antenna checklist should help you or you!	CONSTRUCT	TH.	POWE		Þ	E RANC	
NAME	ADDRESSES	MODEL	CONS	LENGTH	MAX	TYPE	MOUNT	PRICE
ALLCOM		DPA 2UK	AL	1.5	100	М		E
AMSTRAD	Ametrad Consumer Bestronics, 1-7 German Rd, London N17	CBA 1500	SS	1.5			Various	С
ANTENNA INC.		12510 Telecomm Super Persuader MR511 M710 AS M126 AS M128	\$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$	0.9 1.5 1.2 1.5 1.14 1.14	- - - 150 150	M M M M	%tha Meg Meg %tha %"	D F 0 0 C C
ANTENNA SPECIALISTS	Antiference Ltd, Ayleebury, Bucks HP19 3BJ	AS M131 AS MR 440 AS MT178 AS M510 AS M2000 AS 9812 IC 86 IC 80 IC 15	SS SS SS SS SS SS SS SS SS SS SS	1.14 1.2 1.2 1.5 1.6 1.2 1M 1M	150 100 150 200 150 150	M M M M M M	gutter mag mag %" mag mag spring-based mag trunk	Omagaaaa
ANTLER	Shakaspeare, Parformence Antennas, Betton Rd, Market Drayton, Selop	IC 20 IC 30 IC 40 IC 80	SS SS SS	1 1/4 1 1/4 1 1/4	1111	M M M	roof gutter mirror mag	D E D
ARCHER	Tendy Corp., Tame Way Tower, Bridge St, Walsell, W.Mid.	21-904	SS	0.5	50	М	%" snap	D
ARMSTRONG	Stateside Trading Ltd., Audiey Ave, Newport, Shropshire.	SAM 10 SAM 20	SS SS	1.08	1,000	M	surface with	F F
		TAK 10 TAK 20	SS SS	1.08 1.08	1,000	M M	spring boot lip boot lip	F G
		MAG 10 MAG 20	SS	1.06 1.06	1,000	M M	with spring magnetic magnetic	G G
		BDY 20 PEC 20	SS SS	1.06 1.06	1,000	M M	with spring side side & fold over & quick	G
		TAK 101	SS	1.06	1,000	М	disconnect boot lip illuminator	G
AVANTI	Aventi, 132 Penistone Rd Nth, Shaffleld, Yorks,	AV 241 (Moonraker) AV 241 T AV 241 M AV 241 MM	SS SS SS	1.22 1.22 1.22 1.22	1111	M M M	stud trunk mag super mag	DEEG
BADLAND	Bediend, Roeten ind Est, Providence St, Lye, Stourbridge.	B10	88	1.22		М	mag	G
BANDIT	Bendit, Rougham Ind Est, Bury St Edmunds, Surrey.	810 815 816 820 830 840 840 860	SS SS SS SS SS SS SS SS	1.42 0.61 1.22 1.42 1.42 1.22 1.42 1.22 1.42 1.22	numu	M M M M M M	mag mag mag mirror drill-thru various various various various various	0 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6
C. BRIT	C Brit, Unit 3.5 East Lane, Wembley, Middx.	Stingray Whiplash	AL SS	1.5 1.5	500 25	8 M	pole %"	H C
CT INTERNATIONAL	CT International, CTE (UK) Ltd Unit 3, Mitchem ind Est. 85 Streatham Rd, Mitchem, Surray.	MG27	ss	0.91	-	М	mag	С
DIAL-A-MATCH		Rubber Duck 530 (Cherokee) 531 HBF 531 SMF 540 541 HBF 541 SMF 520 (Halfbreed)	R SS SS SS SS SS SS SS	0.3 0.61 0.61 0.61 1.22 1.22 1.22	11111111	M M M M M M	*	CCFEEC
DIGITEK UK LTD	178-181 Streethern Rd, Mincham, Surrey	Falcon 27	SS	1.5		м	various	D
DIXONS	Dixons F'hotographie	Herrier	SS	D.9	-	м	Mag	D
HOT ROD 200	Hot Rod 200, Sitateside Trading Ltd, Audley Avenue, Newport, Shropshire	FM UK	ss	1.27		м	%ths	В
FREEMAN & PARDOW	Freeman & Perdow, Tything Rd, Arden Forest Ind Est, Alcester Warwick	The Invader The Thunderpole	AL A1	1.5 1.5	250 500	B B	pole pole	E F
K40		K40	SS	1.4	500	М	various	F

REFERENCE

C: £10 - £14.99 AL - Aluminium G: £30 - £39.99 Price Bands D:- £15 - £19.99 FG - Floreglass H:- £40 Plus A: £1 - £4.99 E- £20 - £24.99 Construction Application Note: Prices are given B: £5 - £9.99 as a guide only F= C25 - E29.99 85 - Stainless Steel M - Mobile

NAME	ADDRESSES	MODEL	CONSTRUCTION	LENGTH	MAX POWER	TYPE	MOUNT	PRICE RANGE
LCL	LCi, Ltd. Enterprise Treding Est, Pedmore Rd, Dudley West Mid.	Hot Rod 200	SS	1.27	1200	м	% the	В
MARGINPLAN	Hope House, Hope Rd, Leeds LS9 7DU	Bullwhip Knuckleduster	SS AL	1.6 1.6	1	M B	various	D E
MIDWEST		Disi-s-tuns Disi-s-tuns	55 55	0.61 1.22	500	M	various various	CD
мосом	Mocom, Moto Communications Ltd. 140 Sandy Lene, Camphill. B'harn	Revco	SS	1		М	various	8
MOTOROLA	Motoroia, Taylors Rd, Stotsold, Hitchin, Herts.	EC106M	-	1.5	-	м		F
PAN INTERNATIONAL		Pan Mobile 260	SS	1.25	1419	м	clamp	-
PANORAMA	Panorama, 73 Wadham Rd, London, SW 15 2LS	CB27	7-0	1.22	-	М	mag	8
PRIOOW		KT40	SS	1.5	-	М	trunk	С
SHIRA		SYS 208M SYS 203C MA 82	SS FG	1 0.75 0.91	1.1.1	M	mag trunk	CCC
SIRTEL	Sirtel, 24 Alfric Sq. off Maxwell Rd, Woodston ind Est. Peterborough.	GP Messenger GP Signal Keeper	SS SS	1.5 1.5	2	8	clamp tripod	E F
SMC	Oscar, South Midlands Communications, Osborn House, Totton. Southampton, SO4 4DN	Oscar Bese CBA 11GP Oscar Base IIVIIS Oscar IICM Oscar IICE Oscar IINE Oscar IISE Oscar TMCAS	\$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$	1.5 1.5 1.2 1.2 1.5 1.5	1 1 11111	B 8 M M M M	mag foldover base 'pull-up'' foldover base 'locking- collar' foldover base trunk	F F D B C C
SPYDER		Spyder	AL	1.5	-	В	pole	В
TAGRA	Europasonic (UK) Ltd, Britannia Works Building, Sherbourne St. Manchester	Т40	SS	1.4	500	м	various	E
THOROBRED	ZL Communications, Cantley, Nr Norwich, Norfolk	251 227 Locktune	5S 5S SS	1.5 1.5 1.5	111	M	various %" various	C B C
WITCHSTICK	CJM Motor Factors, Hill Farm Avs. Lazvasden, Watford, Herts. 09273-73846	Witchstlick homebase	AL	1.5	17 E	8		E
WTA ELECTRONIC9	111 Cromer Rd, Hellesdon, Norwich, Norfolk	Wot Pole Wot Mag	Al SS	1.5 1.5	1.1	B M	pole mag	C
VAN ORDT	Van Ordt, Knight CB Specialists, 204 Dunstable Rd, Luton, Beds.	Audio King AKO-100	SS	1.5	2000	M	% *	G

Here's a brief introduction to the world of antennas and what we tell you in our checklist.

Name

All antennas have a number or name. Or both. Here we tell you what it is.

Construction

Most mobile antennas are made of stainless steel and most home based ones are made of aluminium. This is not always the case though. There are fibre glass mobiles and stainless steel home based antennas.

Length

The longer the better is always

my motto. As long as it's not over 1.5 m. Otherwise it's illegal. We tell you the exact length.

Maximum power

This is given as a guide only. The law allows for a maximum two watts. However, the higher the maximum power figure given the sturdier the antenna will be.

Type

It's no use buying a home base antenna if you want to use your rig from the car. We tell you which are which Mobile or Base. At the moment the number of mobile antennas far outweigh the number of home

based ones, But there are more and more home base antennas coming onto the market. We'll keep you in touch.

Mount

The majority of mobile anternas are held in place by a magnet — these are called mag mounts. Others are attached by means of a clamp to the boot or edge of the roof.

Some are drill-through antennas which are just the same as normal car radio aerials.

Home based antennas are poles, tripods or gutter mounts. Tripods are free standing and gutter mounts are attached in a way similar to trunk or bootmounts.

Price

Here we use eight price bands. The figure given is the recommended retail price. You may get your antenna for less, it may even cost you more. We just give a guide.

Armstrong



The antenna that OUTPERFORMS K40 in mobile tests in the USA

NOW IN THE UK! HERE'S PROOF: Armstrong is the new leader!

COPPER PLATED (adds 1 DB gain) 17-7 PH stainless steel. Tapered whip with static tip — factory preset — minimum SWR.

SOLID MACHINED BRASS, triple chrome plated for corrosion-free, attractive appearance.

Molded NORYL — highest quality engineering plastic available — impervious to elements.

First truly hollow coil form — less than 1% variance from antenna to antenna.

Special high strength low loss glass-filled NORYL plastic. Heavy duty copper wire coil. 500 watts continuous operation rating — 1000 watts intermittent operating rating.

Silver, plated beryllium copper contact spring.

58-AU type cable 95% braid coverage sealed against water and moisture.

Solid machined brass, triple chrome plated for corrosion-free, attractive appearance.

not the most expensive JUST THE BEST!

24-MONTH LIMITED WARRANTY

all-awifrican

Armstrong Industries, division of Monitor Crystal Service Inc., warrants each new product to be free from defects in material and workmanship under normal use and service for a period of 24 months from delivery to the ultimate consumer.

For complete information, consult the written warranty of Armstrong Industries.

TRIPLE GUARANTEE

The Armstrong Antenna will outperform any equivalent antenna it replaces, or you will receive a prompt, full refund from the Armstrong dealer who sold it to you.

2. Guaranteed satisfaction with 24-month Limited Warranty.

3. Plus, lifetime coil burn-out Guarantee.

All hardware is stainless steel — WILL NOT RUST.

UNI-AXIS ball joint tilts full 45° in all directions for perfect vertical positioning.

IN-LINE connector simplifies antenna installation.

SHUNT FED coils for quieter reception.

QUICK
DISCONNECT
1-3/4 turn, water
tight, Available
in seven (7)
different mounts.

AVAILABLE AT ALL GOOD CB SHOPS

SHOPKEEPERSI If you feel your customers deserve the best, tel. Tony King on (0952) 815154 or your nearest master distributor STATESIDE TRADING, AUDLEY AVENUE, NEWPORT, SAROPSHIRE.





Rig Check



We go walkabout with the Long Ranger, a rugged looking 40 channel portable, so it's Hi Yo Binatone away . . .

Bouncy Binatone

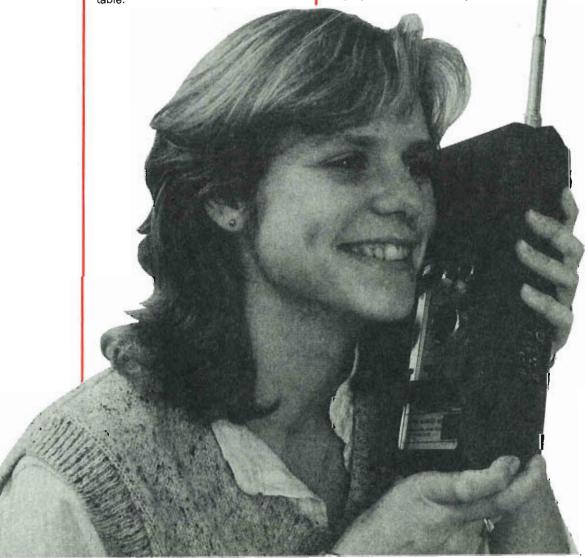
Itizens' Band Radios are a bit like horses! Well not so much the radios them selves but their designs. Some people prefer the sleekness of the racehorse while others much prefer the quiet bulky dignity of the shire horse - them with the furry legs - and some prefer the powerful and smart Western pony. The design factor cannot please everybody and it's really a matter of 'horses for courses'. If it goes like a good 'un, why worry?

The Binatone Long Ranger 40, in comparison to the sleek plastic bodies of most hand helds, is big, chunky and a little garish. At least, that is the opinion of reviewer - other breakers of my aquaintance fell in love with it at first glance. So, let us put a tight rein on the 'small is beautiful' syndrome and take a long, hard look at this forty channel porThe Rig

The case measures 58x80x 240mm - excluding projections - and is quite a handful. Not heavy but solid. Unlike its brother the Long Ranger 12, which has a black facia, the front panel is a shiny, silvered plastic and a little flashy with black faced knobs and switches. The back and the bulk of the case

is in green metal.

The facia comprises of a speaker and mike combined at the top with a red LED channel indicator at the base. A central panel houses the main controls and these are, from top to bottom, an on/off/volume control situated next to a very effective squelch control. The channel selector switch is placed centrally on the panel with the channel numbers indicated clearly in black. Bottom left is the attenuator switch and for battery conservation - a channel display on/off switch. Right hand bot-



tom is a green RX LED and a red TX LED.

On the right hand side of the main casing is a panel containing sockets for external jacks 80hm extension antenna - mains adaptor and battery charge sockets. The PTT - push to talk button — is situated on the left hand side. The battery box at the base, opened with a coin, houses ten nicads or eight ordinary cells. Two dummy cells are provided for the change over. The antenna, is in stainless steel and made up of twelve sections, measuring a full 1.5M, it tops off the whole package. A separate earpiece is provided for the benefit of those around you who do not want to listen in on your chatter. The whole kit and kaboodle can be carried around in the black carrying case supplied.

The handbook is better than average with a nice little section on do's and don'ts

On Test

Loaded with a set of fully charged nicads the Long Ranger 'busted out all over'. Three miles, living room to living room — hand held to base station, presented no problems and the copy

was clear. The volume of the RX — with the control set at halfway — was more than adequate. TX was reported from several stations as being 'loud and clear' at 7 + pounds. This dropped marginally when using portable to portable but reports were still very good. Out in the open, away from the bricks and mortar these portable copies improved. The squelch fine tuned easily and removed the rubbish that was around at the time of the test.

Conclusion

The Long Ranger may not be as sleek as some of the competition but the metal casing, acting as a ground plane with the body, does seem to give a boost to the performance. You also get a feeling that the rig will stand up to some rugged usage in or out of its carrying case.

Definitely one for the short list and at £59.95 it compares favourably to rigs offering a similar performance.

Our thanks to Binatone for supplying the sample tested which, is now, offered to some lucky breaker as a prize in this month's competition.



RIG REVIEW DATA PANEL

Model Long Ranger 40 Distributor Binatone Typical Price £59.95 Features Yes No PA Facility External Speaker Jack TX Indicator Light . **RX Indicator Light** . PA Indicator Light S/RF Meter HI/Lo Power Switch ANL/NB Switch • CH9 Switch . Variable RF Gain Mike Gain Delta Tune Tone Control . LED Channel Readout

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		1	
	•		
	•	2	L.
	1	B	
	dnS	Sup Sup Sup Sup Sup Sup Sup Sup	Sup Goo

Specifications	
Modes Of Operation	FM Only
No. Of Channels	40
Weight	IN ENTER A DV TO THE
Dimensions	58x80x240mm
Supply Voltage	12VDC
RF Output Power	4 watt
Frequency Stability	In spec
Swamping	Good
Sensitivity (RX)	In spec
Spurious Emissions	In spec

CB VERDICT Range XXX Clarity of TX XXXX Clarity of RX Ease Of Controls Ease Of Installation —

XXXX

We rate our samples on a scale of one to five. Five stars is the highest rating, three and four stars are good to average and one and two stars mean it's not doing so well.

Performance

SEND NO MONEY Both binders and annual

Both binders and annual subscriptions to Video Today can be purchased using your Access or Barclaycard — or you can pay by cheque or

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Please use BLOCK CAPITALS and include post codes.
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Signature Data
Tick as appropriate
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Please commence my annual subscription to Video Today with the(month) issue. UK subscription rate is £11.95. Overseas £16.60 or £39.50 airmail.
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TODAY



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This month Good Ol' Mack takes a look at the horizontal and comes up with an interesting use for one of those wire coat hangers that clutter up the wardrobe...



A few issues ago I mentioned that the authorities could be taking action against people who use illegal antennas, but rumour now has it that they have changed their minds. It seems that complaints of TVI through the fault of legal installation is increasing, the reason for this is that antennas mounted at the legal height put them in line with domestic TV antennas. I am also led to believe that the regulation base loaded 1½ metre whip antenna is not the best design for the 11 metre band. It is claimed that helicals are more efficient and cause less interference. So could we see the restrictions on antennas lifted in the future? That would certainly give us more scope for a better antenna system.

Back in the naughty days of illegal CB many of those who used home base stations delved into building 'disguise' antennas. Many stations used to hide antenna systems in the garden trees or up the side of the house. As the number of illegal breakers grew many purchased Silver rods, GPs, or Sigmas and these were installed in open view on chimney stacks. Why people did this baffles me. Were they very foolish or brave in the fact that they were advertising that they had CB. Many home base stations would experiment with antennas and it was during these experiments that long wire antennas were used in a horizontal mode.

It's a well known fact that the longer you can make your antenna the more effective it becomes. The reason that we don't use longer antennas on mobiles is obvious, even home base verticals are limited to ½ or % wave because of length. If one has the space a horizontal antenna in the form of a long wire or dipole can easily be a full wave. The advantages of a horizontal antenna are that you eliminate the hash that you would find working vertically — plus you will, and I repeat, will get out further.



The disadvantage is that although you will be able to work stations mobile or base with vertical antennas your signals will be lower. But if you work other stations using horizontal you will be suprised at the difference in increased 's' points obtained. If you are still not convinced, ask yourself why most beam antennas are worked in the horizontal plane? If I have whetted your appetite and you want to know more about long wire antennas most Amateur Radio books explain the whys and wherefores.

Finally don't forget the cost. The chances are that it could cost you nothing as I am sure you could find 11 metres of wire knocking about. Could horizontal FM working catch on? If enough people take the effort to erect a long wire and experiment it will. What about the authorities and the legal aspect you may ask? Well look at all the GPs, silver rods and such. How much notice do the authorities take of these unless of course the owners are causing interference. But as I said before changes could soon be made.

Did you read in one of the national newspapers the article about some evil people with CB who are arranging eyeballs with young female breakers and luring the to isolated places with wicked intentions in mind — it's always the bad side of CB that makes the papers, — in reply to this came a statement from Sir Patrick Wall MP, who said that, when, the culprits are caught their licences will be revoked. What a stupid comment, as if these villians would have a licence and if they did would taking it away stop them from using CB.

And yet another bit of friendly advice. Many breakers are getting stopped for using hand mikes whilst mobile and are being pinched for dangerous driving or driving with undue care and attention. Those of you who do use hand mikes must agree that it can be dangerous, I myself have had some nasty experiences so I will now only use a mobile mike whilst driving. If you can afford it there are some good ones on the market, but a little forethought on your part will show that there are many ways you can safely modulate whilst mobile.

Those mikes that clip on to the sun visor with a switch attached to the gear stick can be built for a couple of pounds if you are handy with a soldering iron or, why not buy secondhand cheap mike and with a few modifications like replacing the PTT switch with a toggle switch and hanging the lot around your neck with the aid of a wire coat hanger. But make sure that the cable does not obstruct the steering wheel. 'Oiy Ed' how about some designs for mobile mikes or a competition for the best idea. Well take care when mobile and don't get bitten by the bears, you have been warned.

Antenna Review



Manufacturers are continually surprising us with their efforts to provide antennas that, while conforming to spec, stretch that spec to the very limits. Brian W. Wright looks at the latest item...





ost breakers with limited antenna space are usually content, at first, to use makeshift antennas very often in the bedroom or somewhere similar. Once over the initial novelty of ratcheting to the fairly local breakers, (or maybe simply because the DV 27 keeps falling over when they have eaten all of the biscuits in the tin it was on) they look for something better. The original space restriction will probably rule out many good antennas mainly because of the room required for the ground plane elements. If space is your problem or you just want a homebase aerial that is not too large the Hell-pole base station adapter, from CB Services (Harrogate), fitted with a suitable mobile antenna, could well be what you are looking for.

The Heli-pole is not a complete antenna in itself but a rather unusual groundplane on which to mount any mobile antenna with a %" 24 T.P.I. mounting thread. It is obvious from this that the performance will be affected by the type of antenna fitted to the Heli-pole. The aerial fitted for the purpose of our tests, was the fairly efficient looking **Detonator** mobile antenna, also provided by CB services. Comments on tuning and performance will therefore be mainly related to the Heli-pole and Detonator combination and may differ with various antennas.

This base station adaptor consists firstly of a short horizontal tube or boom one end of which fits into either a wall mounting bracket or a mast mounting bracket, both are provided. The other end of this tube fits to a plastic insulator. The coax is connected to a socket in the insulator using a PL 259 plug which is completely covered from the weather by the mounting boom. The feeder cable runs along the inside of the boom and out of the end where it

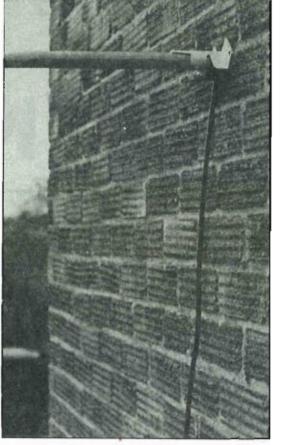
can be fixed down the wall or mast as is appropriate. In the top of the insulator is a female %" 24 T.P.I. antenna mounting thread. Out of the bottom of the main insulator there is first a short length of tube, then a small insulator, then a longer tube. A large aluminium coil about 300mm diameter consisting of 11/2 turns is then clamped to the lower tubes bridging across the small insulator. The instructions say that the lower end of the coil should be about 150mm below the small insulator to start with, but it is not clear where the top end should be. The coil end clamps on the test sample were too large and would not hold onto the tubes. These both had to be packed with metal strips. The mobile antenna simply screws into the threaded boss on the top of the main insulator.

SWR

Although it is never easy to tune an untuned homebase antenna, because of the physical difficulty in reeching it, the SWR adjustment is relatively simple on the Heli-pole. This is done by loosening the lower clamp on the large coil and sliding it up or down the lower pole. If the coil has to be stretched too far down the pole then the whip has to be shortened as for mobile tuning. The whip would naturally require lengthening if a low SWR was not obtained with the coil closed up to the top of the lower pole. When the Detonator was fitted to the Heli-pole, about 50mm had to be cut off the whip. Adjustment of the coil then brought the SWR down to less than 1.1; 1 on channel 20 and slightly over 1.2:1 on 1 and 40.

On Test

We mounted our test sample on the wall of the house at about the legal height for 4 Watts. The test pattern obtained was therefore a bit lopsided



where the signal had to pass immediately through the house. A more symmetrical pattern should be obtained if the antenna is mounted on a mast in the open. However, we considered this to be a realistic test as the antenna is likely to be mounted in this manner in many instances. The performance was quite good, especially in the direction away from the mounting wall and a reasonably clear copy was maintained even on the bad or wall

Instructions are rather poor consisting of a small printed sheet without diagrams. When assembling antennas, as with most things, the old saying — a picture speaks a thousand words — is still true.

Construction of the Heli-pole is generally quite good, the only criticisms being the size of the coil end clamps and the nuts and screws in the clamps being unplated mild steel! The Detonator mobile antenna used, is very well constructed, having a black sleeved 350mm long spirally wound coil with a 1.5 metre taper ground stainless whip. Coil fittings are solid

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Heli-pole is a useful groundplane assembly. Combined with a Detonator, fitted and wall mounted, it has a medium to good performance. Mounted clear of obstructions it should perform even better. Brief tests with four other antennas fitted, indicated consistent performance and tuning. With plated or stainless clamp bolts, the Heli-pole should stand up to the British climate without any trouble. Priced at £12.50, represents good value, (Detonator price also £12.50).

Our thanks to CB Services for providing the samples tested.

ANTENNA REVIEW DATA PANEL

SPECIFICATIONS

Model

Length

Type

Frequency Range Max Power Handling Impedance

Cable Supplied Mounting Details Supplier **Typical Price**

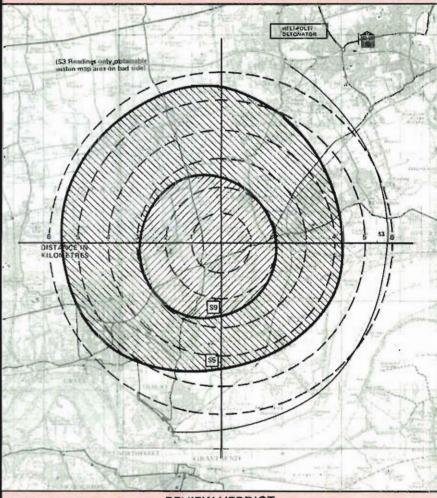
Heli-pole

Base station antenna adaptor 1-4m plus antenna 27-28 MHz

50ohm None

Wall or pole mounted CB Services (Harrogate)

£12.50



REVIEW VERDICT

Performance XXXX SWR Adjustment XXXX Construction XXX

Installation XXXX Instructions XX Value XXXX

We rate our samples on a scale of one to five. Five stars is excellent, four stars is very good, three stars good to average and one or two stars mean it's not doing so well.

The Tests

We have used out standard procedure to assess the efficiency of this antenna. Just to bring new readers up to date this involves two tests; one static and one mobile. Out test sample is fitted to a stationary mobile and a second mobile follows a pre-arranged route that orbits the stationary test vehicle, sending and receiving signal reports at measured intervals. This is then repeated with the test antenna on the mobile test vehicle and the signals are sent and received between a stationary vehicle. A stendard rig and antenna is used in all the tests. With the results obtained we are able to draw up the radiation pattern shown here. This is simplified to make the results more easily understood. The antenna is also subjected to a series of 'lab' tests to assess their durability, quality and construction, etc and finally we hand it over to a panel of CBers for comment.



Busy channels, Wallies, HO regulations and DXing have all contributed to the growing interest of CBers into the field of Amateur Radio.
Here David Saul G4EKZ introduces you to the world of the Ham!...

HAM'I FROM CB TO





here's no doubt about it, when it came to legalising CB the Government was less than enthusiastic. Considerable pressure was brought to bear before anything was done, and the CB law that has resulted is seen by many people as being very restrictive. Why is this? Did the Government set out just to spoil everybody's fun, or was there a better reason? One reason is undoubtedly this; the Government knew that for anyone with a deep interest in radio communication, there already existed an alternative.

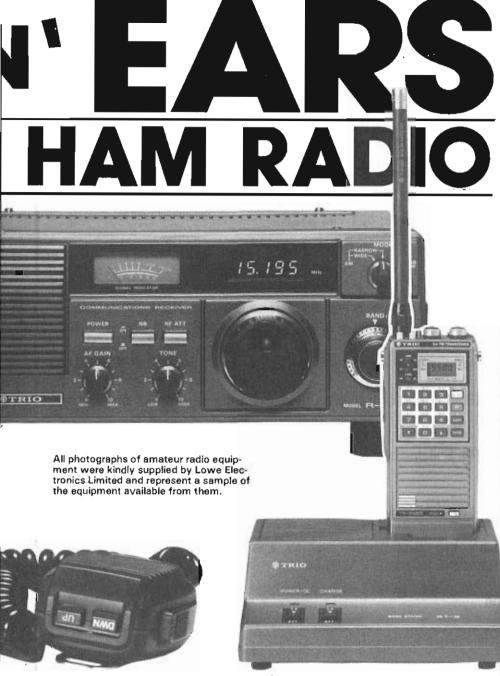
CB is simply a personal two-way radio service, and its intended range is no more than a few miles. By putting stringent limits on transmitter power, aerial height and ERP, the Government has made sure that CB will not develop into anything bigger. So what is the alter-

native? What about the breaker who wants to play about with more powerful rigs and fancy antennas? What happens, dare I say it, when the novelty of chatting to a breaker a few miles down the road wears off, and the idea of talking to someone in the USA, or even Australia, seems a bit more exciting?

'Hamateur' Radio!

The answer to these questions has been around for a long time, long before CB was even a twinkle in some trucker's eye. Amateur Radio or 'Ham Radio' — as non Hams call it — could be what you are looking for.

Radio Amateurs have been in long distance right from the start, it was Amateurs who showed that worldwide radio communication was even possible. What's more, Amateur Radio, particularly in this country, has always had the blessing of the Government. The



Amateur law encourages experimentation and inter-continental communications — the regulations are far more flexible than those for CB

There are several million Radio Amateurs around the world, including over 30,000 in the UK. Only a handful of countries ban Amateur Radio, and a listen around the bands reveals a surprising number of Amateur stations from behind the Iron Curtain.

What can Amateurs do that CBers can't, and what should you do if you are interested in finding out more?

For a start, Radio Amateurs in this country have a choice of 19 frequency bands — two of which were added this year by international agreement. These bands range from near the mediumwave broadcast band, through the short-wave bands — where 27 MHz sits — up into the VHF range, on up past 934 CB and into the microwaves —

from DC to light! Amateurs may use various types of modulation; SSB most popular on the lower frequency bands - CW - morse - FM on VHF, and AM which is now almost extinct. More exotic types of transmission include radio teletype - RTTY - and slow-scan television - SSTV, Transmitter power is limited to 150 W output on most bands, and when it comes to antennas it's the neighbours and local planning authority who will decide what is too big. The field is wide open for experimentation. Amateur satellites are available to any Amateur with suitable equipment, and techniques such as tropo-scatter, meteorscatter and bouncing signals off the moon, have all been tried and tested by Amateurs. Ready built rigs are the most popular, but anyone who wants to have a go with a soldering iron will find a home-brew transmitter fun to build, and far more rewarding to operate than a commercial rig.

On the operating side there are awards and contests to aim for, points may be awarded for countries worked or for QSO distances. Some Amateurs enjoy rag-chewing with friends either locally or across the world, others spend hours chasing rare DX stations in the more obscure parts of the world.

Licensing

The essence of Amateur Radio, as specified in the licence, is the 'self-training in communication by wireless telegraphy'. This could be roughly translated as 'playing about with radio'.

There are two types of Amateur licence in the UK; the class A licence which allows operation on all bands and the use of morse, and the class B which is limited to the bands above 70 MHz. Some Amateurs start off with a class B licence and later pass the morse test necessary for class A, All Amateurs have a callsign which must be used on the air, and identifies the country and type of licence. eg G4EKZ; G means England and 4 a class A licence. The last three letters are unique to that station.

To get a licence it is necessary to pass the Radio Amateur Examination – RAE — and for a class A, a Post office morse test. The RAE is a multiple choice type exam covering basic radio theory and licence conditions. It is held in May and November in many towns, and local colleges often run evening courses. The exam is not intended to put people off, it just ensures that they are genuinely interested in Amateur Radio and are able to operate their rigs legally. To pass the morse test you must be able to send and receive at 12 words per minute. This is not as difficult as some people think, plenty of practice, and listening to slow transmissions on the air will bring you up to standard.

RSGB

There are Amateur Radio Clubs in most towns and these are all under the auspicies of the Radio Society of Great Britain — RSGB. The RSGB offers many services to Amateurs, including a QSL card bureau - this saves on postage of sending cards individually - books and a monthly magazine. More importantly the RSGB respresents Amateurs in negotiations with the Home Office and internationally through the International Amateur Radio Union, 'A Guide to Amateur Radio' is a good book for finding out a bit more about the subject. This and other RSGB books can often be found in local libraries. The RSGB will send you more information if you send them an SAE to the address below.

Follow Up

If you're interested then why not give Amateur Radio a try. After getting your toes wet with CB it could be just the hobby that you're looking for.

Radio Society of Great Britain, 35 Doughty Street, London, WC1N 2AE. (Please send large stamped addressed envelope.) HAM INTERNATIONAL
SUPERSTAR
SIRTEL
KENWOOD
YAESU
F.D.K.
TONNA

WELZ DAIWA KENPRO HIRCHMANN TONO KATSUMI ROTORS

NEW IDEA LIMITED

C.B. AMATEUR RADIO EQUIPMENT 133, FLAXLEY ROAD, STECHFORD, BIRMINGHAM 33, UNITED KINGDOM TELEPHONE: 021-784 3129

SUPERSTAR 360 FM. 40 channels FM with optional S.S.B. The Bees Knees of 11 metre transceivers. £195.00 Access or Barclaycard.

ELECTRONICA Special 5/8 wave DX antenna gets the contacts others miss. Only £29.90

COMMTEL 'Starduster Type' AR23. Ideal for those with limited space. Good DX or local. £15.90

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A lot of readers have put pen to paper again this month and here we select the few from the many...

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Light in the Darkness

Dear CB

Rainmaker's last article certainly brought some CB problems to light, but his area is Heaven compared to what I and many other breakers have to contend with.

Often travelling second man in a CB equipped truck, I can say that a lot of Scotlands CB operators and, indeed, a lot of English breakers need a lesson in decency. No one needs endless repetitions of slang on the one four or for that matter anywhere else on the 37 conversation channels. In my area people key mikes, play music, swear and even do 'abnormal' things like have sensible conversations — although these are now rare.

Junior Breakers are only partly to blame and perhaps, if adults on CB were to set a better example, the kids would not muck about so much.

CB has been legal for one year and 25 days as I write this letter and a lot of water has passed under the bridge and a lot of breakers have drowned in it, maybe CB will improve with time but at the moment it is a useless waste of money, a total farce. I hope it improves.

James L. Miller

Mayday Nayday

Dear CB.

Early this morning I tried to get assistance by using Channel 9, I always understood that this was manned 24 hours a day, I could get nothing at all from it, I put out a 'Mayday' call on Channel 14 again-nothing. I even tried to call 'Breaker on the side' that I had a Mayday call but no one would answer. One of the reasons for getting a CB was, so that, in an emergency I would be able to call assistance. In the-end I had to walk to the nearest working call box and dial 999. Had I been able to call Police a lot of time would have been saved — luckily a dog saved the man's life. An earlier call would have

made things so much better, what is the point in having an Emergency Channel when you can't get a reply from it? How many other people have been in danger in such circumstances?

Yours shocked at lack of help. Eric M Stanhope Melton Mowbray

Thanks for your letter Eric — we would be interested to know what part the dog played in this rescue.

Two's Company...

Dear CB,

I have read in your magazine, many times, about DX on FM but as yet I have not heard of anyone who has copied the same DX station twice (Ah the immortal words that make young Joan in the CB post room tremble!).

On July 11th '82 I copied a

On July 11th '82 I copied a Whiskey Delta from Aberdeen, this being my first DX I was thrilled. I received a QSL card confirming the copy. One month later, on the 21st August I copied Golf Delta a member of the same family. It was great and certainly made my weekend. I can only hope that I can copy them for a lucky third time.

Tim Beaumont Warwickshire

We'll keep our fingers crossed for you Cosmol

One for the Road

Dear CB,

I read with interest Smart Alec's reply to a letter from a person enquiring about the pro's and con's of two antennas on his vehicle. I thought that I would let you know of my own experience with one Half Breed twig.

I recently spent a holiday in Italy and had twelve DX copies from back in the UK using a Half Breed mounted centrally on my boot lid. I had only 12 Watts using a NATO 2000 on SSB (not that you would know anything

about that — your wordsl). One copy I made was a trucker in Wales who was using twin Half Breeds.

I hope that this letter will help to show that one good antenna will do the job and, incidentally, antenna wise, it is a legal twig.

Streaky Bacon Penzance

Passed that info on to SA and he passes back his thanks Streakyl



Appeal — No Hoax

Dear CB, NATCOLCIBAR have been investigating the appeal for 'Little Buddy', 'Paul', and 'Kingfisher' etc. in Scotland, which was reported in the press as a hoax. From information we have received from Scotland, it is clear that this was a very genuine appeal, but through the well-meant but overzealous good nature of CBers nationwide, it snowballed until it became confusing and suspicious.

The appeal was started in June and was for a genuine 'Eyeball' and 'QSL' card collection for a nine year old, Paul, with terminal cancer. Owing to the over-whelming response from breakers, and ordinary people, Paul's parents became distressed by the unwanted publicity, and naturally 'went underground'. Paul has since died and the appeal was closed on 2nd October.

However, there are still many clubs in the U.K. holding cards, gifts and other correspondence in this respect, and the following advice had been given to us by Scotland:

EYEBALL, QSL, and CB CLUB CARDS ONLY may be sent to the secretary, OILMAN,

Forefront CB Breakers Club, Fish Cross, ALLOA.

Where they will be sorted and made up into a collection for Mandy, 'Daddy's Girl' a mentally handicapped little girl (or select a child locally). This is *NOT* an appeal for more.

MONEY, that cannot be returned to the sender, should be donated to Cancer Research, as requested by Paul's parents, or a local children's home.

GIFTS and TOYS, it is suggested, could be donated to local Childrens' Homes or Hospitals.

Any other items or correspondence can be disposed of as thought fit by each Club involved.

We hope that this information will help to clear up the confusion, and reassure breakers that they were not being 'taken for a ride'. NOBODY has ever asked for money on this appeal, only Eyeball, QSL and Club Cards, but the response is typical of the 'Good Buddles' principle that runs through the CB channels.

If any further information is required, NATCOLIBAR, which is a NATIONAL Organisation, can be contacted through the area co-ordinators or the secretary at the address below. Steve Donohue,

Admin Secretary, NATCOLCIBAR, 430 Westwood, Windmill Hill, Runcorn WA7 6LL.

Meal 'n' Wheel

Dear CB,

I am writing on behalf of the CB for the Guildford and District Disabled.

We are hoping to hold a Charity Night at the Lakeside Country Club, Frimley, with a meal and a cabaret. Tickets are to be priced at £12.00 a head and no date as yet has been set. Any reader who feels he would like to support this venture or who would like further information please contact The Secretary, J. Sommerville, The Chase, Guildford Park, Guildford, Surrey, or me, at the address below.

Brian Warner 50 Lime Grove Bellfields Est. Guildford.

CBA...R U There?

Dear CB,

Keith Townsend, in the name of the Citizens Band Association, seems to have got the right idea in the article — November '82 — but it's a pity it's not their own. This article is very similar to a Natcolcibar press release dated the 6th July 1982 and the parliamentary working party's press release dated 10th June 1982.

As for the CBA meeting the Home Office, this is perfectly true but the RRD were under the impression that the CBA represented over one million breakers (They now know better). The Home Office are at this moment meeting with the representatives from Natcolcibar who do represent thousands of breakers. It's about time the CBA stopped deluding the media,

you, the breakers and themselves and went back to flogging FM rigs, or acting as politicians in party politics.

lan M Perry Chairman SLAB 27 Kent

Any reply from the CBA would, of course, be welcome.

In the Beginning

Dear CB.

May I correct the impression you gave in your first CB Mag./CB World issue? CB World was actually started in Dec 1980 by IPC's then publishing director Gordon Henderson. Brian Chalmers-Hunt (The Scribe) only arrived on the scene in June 1981 from Commercial Motor. Please don't underplay the part that IPC played in the legalisation campaign since when national institutions such as IPC, your predecessors Modmags and WH Smiths started distributing CB publications, the Home Office resistance to any form of personal radio service started to crumble.

Isn't it about time the legalisation handle was cranked once again? It's been over a year now and we've still got these funny 1.5 metre twigs and FM only and still no CEPT/FCC channels.

Richard Town London

Impression corrected and thanks.

REACT Reaction!

Dear CB

I have recently been appointed County Co-Ordinator for Oxfordshire.

Last winter much valuable work was done by Channel 9 monitors in this area but there are many parts of the county where there is no organised monitoring service. There is in fact only one 'REACT' team in the county. I am anxious that other teams should be operating before this winter sets in.

May I appeal through your magazine for anyone interested in this service to the community, to contact me at the above address, when I will do all I can to assist them in setting up a 'REACT' team in their area.

Mr W Tully REACT 8 The Croft West Hanney Nr. Wantage Oxon OX12 0LD

Yes Sir — you may — and we wish you well.

Letters intended for publication should be addressed to: Backchat, Citizens' Band, 145 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H OEE. Letters not containing a name and address will not be considered for publication.





It was Groucho Marx who said 'I don't care to belong to any social organisation which would accept me as a member'. It was Chris Adam-Smith who said 'If there's a free drink going, I'll join.' Two days is a long time. I mean, you could just about fly round the world in two days. You could play sixteen full soccer matches — as long as you ignored half-time. You could even boil 960 eggs — one after another. Best of all, if you wanted to raise some cash for charity, you could talk on the air for 48 hours — like some breakers from Westbury in Wiltshire.

Westbury FM Breakers Club

Back in September we held a 48 hour DX link-up. We did it to raise money for the Bath Cancer Unit — which is close to where we live.

The CB operators manned their transmitters in a caravan — complete with lattice tower and 18 foot dipole — on the White Horse Hill near Westbury, 770 feet above sea level. We talked for a total of 48 hours nonstop, the object being to contact operators in other parts of the country

as far away and as numerous as possible. On completion of a contact the operator was asked if he would like to make a small donation for the charity — and on receipt of a donation a special QSL card was sent back.

The total number of contacts was 1,082, they were as far away as Plymouth, Mid-Wales, London and Scotland.

On Sunday 14th November at the club eyeball at the Labour Club, Mr Chris Norman, chairman of the appeals committee for the Bath Cancer Unit was presented with a cheque for £405 by Margaret Shields, the club chairperson. We now hope to make the linkup an annual even.

D J Sheilds, Westbury FM Breakers Club, c/o 42 Studland Park, Westbury, Wilts BA13 3HL





The news from Nottinghamshire is that the bad Sheriff is dead — the Castle Town Junior Breakers rule . . .

Castle Town Junior Breakers Club

The Castle Town Junior Breakers Club was formed for the benefit of all the young breakers between the ages of 5 years to 15 years, in the Newark area. It enabled them to come to the club and register their Handles and also to meet other young breakers that they talk to in safety. The club is also a youth club with an adult and junior committee, the club meets twice a month. They have an eyeball (disco) and also a games evening, normally they meet on a Friday evening between 6.30pm and 10.00pm at St Augustines Hut, Newton Street Newark.

Of course nothing comes free so the young breaker who joins the club has to pay a membership fee of 10p a year and also 25p on the night at the door. All money is channelled back into the club for the young breakers, it enables the Adult and Junior

Committee to buy games and also enables the young breakers to have a Christmas party. Also just recently it enables the committe to buy records and lights for the A.L. Disco, which is owned by the C.T.J.B.C. It was agreed that the Disco be lent out to any other youth clubs for a small donation. Also the Disco is being hired out for parties and dances for a nominal fee. Of course, not all the money was raised on the membership and entrance fees, a lot was raised by sponsored walks and a sponsored pram push from Skegness to Newark.

The club has now been going for five months and in that time we have got a membership of just over one hundred and sixty members. On the first night we had a total of sixty members, and of course the number just grew to the present number. Every meeting the club has there are always new members starting with us. After about two months of existence the two committees decided to have competitions with the winner receiving his or her own cup for the particular competition.

For the first five months of this club the committee has come to the conclusion that it is a great success, and also it will become a greater success in the months to come. It has not all been smooth riding, but then what ever is? Next year we hope to do more for charity, as we think this will give us a good name in the local community. We will write to your magazine and let you know about anything that we think is important for the club.

The Secretary,
Castle Town Junior Breakers Club,
1, Manthorpe Way,
Balderton,
Newark
Notts.

Bradford Bound

Finally there's an invitation from West Yorkshire, Bradford to be precise. The Kilo Bravo Breakers have thrown down the gauntlet to any club who will take them on at anything. Or perhaps just an exchange visit. The man to contact if you fancy a trip to Yorkshire is Mr L Carter, 89 Buttershaw Drive, Buttershaw, Bradford, BD6 3RZ, West Yorkshire.

CB



CITIZENS' BAND (CLUB) CLUB DIRECTORY REGISTRATION FORM



CLUB NAME	ı
CHAIRMAN	I
Secretary	•
PR Contact	J
Contact Address)
)
MEETING PLACE, DAY AND TIME)
No. of members	
Position in club	
Fee/sub etc)
Please mark (*) information that may be published.	

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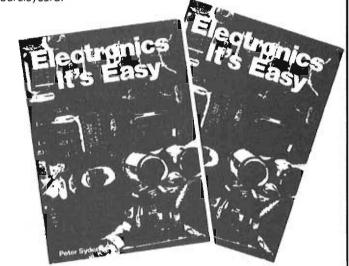
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