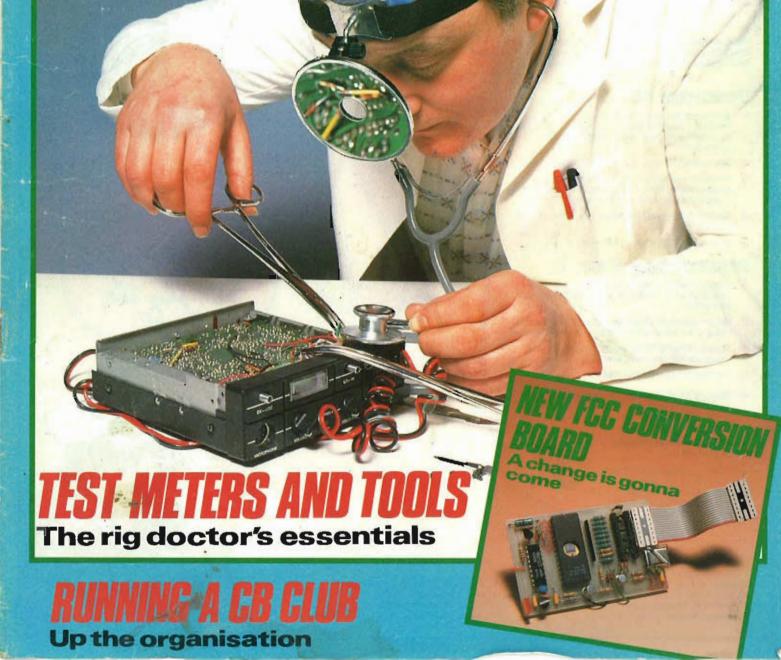
Citizens' Band

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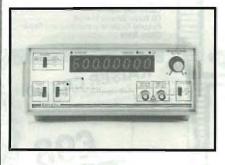
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citizens', Band

MADOLI 1000

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VOLUME E



Inside this month:

Trevor Butler takes a look at the tools and meters essential to the rig doctor's trade.

Editor Eamonn Percival Group Editor Sue Sharp Ad Manager Tom Connor Designer Footprint Managing Editor Wendy Palmer Editorial Director Ron Moulton

Normally published on the third Friday of the month preceding cover date.

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NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF CB **NEWS** FROM THE WORLD



Editorial

At the time of writing, we have just witnessed heavy snow, gale force wind and torrential rain — all in less than seven days. On each occasion, I was unfortunate enough to be out on the road at the time. In my area, we had square-wheeled traffic and fender benders galore. All in all, conditions were unfavourable, to say the least. I am pleased to say, however, that local breakers were on their best behaviour and calls for directions and road conditions brought sensible and helpful responses. Where had all the wallies gone, I wondered? Knowing their mentality, they were probably out making snowmen. My

CTE From Telecomms Telecomms recently announced that they are now operating as both the UK office and distribution point for CTE International, not only aiding them with the design and development of new products for 27MHz CB, but also working with them to market their professional range of broadcast and test equipment.

CTE International are one of Europe's largest CB and associated manufacturers with an annual turnover in excess of £14 million. Telecomms now carry a full range of spares for all CTE products and will be pleased to help with any technical advice or problems on any CTE products — even if purchased prior to Telecomms taking over the distribution.

The new "American" range of mobile antennas has just been launched. Based on the Avanti style of aerial that was so popular a few years ago, they feature a fully adjustable whip section and are made to fit a variety of bases. The range comprises the Texas (£11.90), the Florida (£12.94), the California (£12.99), the Oregon (£13.50), the Dallas (£14.90), the Detroit (£15.90) and the Boston (£16.90).

Telecomms are also now marketing the new CTE lowcost spectrum analyser and a range of UHF broadcast transmitters point is that it is a depressing state of affairs when one finds oneself *surprised* that people are acting sensibly on the airwaves. I know it can't have been like that all over the country. I'm sorry to say

the country, I'm sorry to say. Talking of wallies, after numerous requests we shall be publishing a list of Radio Investigation Officers' addresses in the next issue, so if you are plagued by the foul-mouthed brigade and you are armed with names or locations, let the lads know.

Right, this month's issue looks at the rig doctor's tools of the trade in a special feature on meters, 'scopes etc. Keith Townsend, as usual, has been extra-busy; he reports on a group of breakers helping out the Beeb's Children In Need Appeal, and, elsewhere, he explains the running of a successful CB club.

Anyone out there eagerly awaiting the change to the FCC frequencies frext year? Well, just for you, we review one of the first conversion boards available — but we don't advise you use it yet!

don't advise you use it yet Last, but certainly not least, we hope to see you at one of the biggest CB events of the year. Namely, the 1986 CB & Radio Big Meeting on Sunday 27th April at the Stanley Youth Centre, Stanley, Co Durham. It is being organised by four separate CB groups and should be a huge success.

Eamonn Percival



More Cellular Jamming The Yorkshire Evening Post recently carried a news story about 934 users suffering jamming from BT's cellular radio system. In the Leeds area, business and professional people's telephone conversations are coming through loud and clear on local 934 stations. Entire

conversations, clinching deals, discussing business tactics and even family crises are being picked up.

Many 934 operators have taped hours of these conversations but the Department of Trade and Industry is reported to have said: "The system is designed so that this kind of thing cannot happen."

An Armley man said. "I paid £455 for my set but I can't switch it on without being drowned out by telephone calls. It has got to the point in Leeds where we find it virtually impossible to use the 934 band because we are being jammed all the time by cellular radio."

that Radio Caroline, who

and cease broadcasting.

wavelength after Laser went

off the air, would follow suit

number of possible offences

has been passed to UK and

continental police, although

decisions on prosecution of

Another 934 user, who helped make recordings, said: "Our national 934 club has made protests to the DTI about this but is being ignored. We have the proof on tape that highly confidential conversations are smothering our broadcasts. The DTI should do something about it."

UK nationals and residents

The DT! were quick to

have, for the time being,

still concerned about the

helicopter beacons in the

North Sea

pirate transmissions and, in

particular, any interference to

have realised that there isn't

are sorry if any readers were

misled by the article and, to

an instructional step-by-step

project on building a power

acted responsibly by getting

in touch with the police.

Under other circumstances,

she could well have saved

lives but, as it happened, the weather was not too bad."

supply in the near future.

sufficient information. We

constructors, we will have

make it up to home

point out that, although they

stopped surveillance, they are

rest with the Director of

Public Prosecutions.

Talisman Appeal

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Talisman (Noel), chairman of Walton and Weybridge Elie Breakers Club, after a massive heart attack. Noel had about 40 operations and eventually lost both legs through having a rare disease of the circulatory system called Buergers Disease.

The disease strikes only those between the ages of 20 and 35 years of age, and it is believed that fewer than 50 people in the country suffer from it. Noel, although in pain, was never one to complain as he always put others first.

Noel put in a lot of time and patience running the club and managed to raise funds for three nebulizers (breathing machines) and cash for the Princess Alice Hospice. His widow, Wendy (Californian Poppy), as well as acting as chairlady for the club, is also organising an appeal called the Talisman Buergers Appeal.

If anyone would like to keep Noel's memory alive and help others who suffer from the disease, any donations will be gratefully received by any branch of the Abbey National. Cheques or postal orders should be made out to the Talisman Buergers Appeal on account number R10968593PAR.

Man Bites Dog? Thieves climbed onto the roof of a post office in Weston Turville, Buckinghamshire, recently and stole a CB antenna worth £40. The antenna belonged to Mrs Joan Pippard of the post office. Could it be someone trying to get their own back on Busby? Pirate Snooping Stops The Department of Trade and Industry's surveillance on pirate radio ships was halted on December 13th when the Radio Investigation Service withdrew. The exercise was described by Geoffrey Pattie, Minister of State, as "very successful". He added that the fact that Laser 558 had stopped broadcasting was an added bonus, and he hoped

DIY Power Supply

Our article on power supplies

in the January 1986 issue

of confusion. The feature

was not intended to be a

author's thoughts on the

article, but rather the

CB Sea Rescue Three men stranded at sea

step-by-step constructional

considerations and problems

were rescued recently, thanks

Marjorie Ovington and her son's CB rig, Marjorie (Cryptic

to the efforts of housewife

Queen), from Stanley, Co

Durham, was chatting to

friends on CB when she

Natcolcibar Change

written to us, asking us to

38 Amroth Walk, St Dials,

inform readers that the official

address of Natcolcibar is now:

Cwmbran, Gwent NP44 4NQ,

Mrs Tapper is administrative

Mrs Peggy Tapper has

picked up an SOS from a

seems to have caused a bit

The monitoring began at the beginning of August and a, it has been revealed that evidence concerning a

quickly adopted the

involved in designing and building his own psu. This explains the absence of a components list and fully detailed circuit diagram.

Because of these omissions, we recommend that the diagram is not used to construct a power supply — those that have tried will

man whose boat had broken down, half a mile out of the River Tyne. training centre at Gateshead, praised Mrs Ovington for her prompt action and said: "She

River Tyne. Marjorie immediately contacted the marine police who sent out a craft to tow in the stranded boat and its three crew members. Sgt John Mitchell, based at Britain's only coastal patrol

secretary for the organisation and vice president of the European CB Federation and would be pleased to hear from any clubs or individuals, either past members or anyone interested in CB and its future. She tells us that Natcolcibar are still fighting for AM/FM/SSB on the FCC frequencies and that they are determined to ensure that when the CEPT frequencies are introduced, the present legal system is not withdrawn.

Cree Valley Mass

The Cree Valley Breakers Club will be holding their annual Mass Eyeball this year at Auchenlarie Holiday Farm, Gatehouse of Fleet, from Friday 2nd May to Sunday 4th May.

Four, five, six and sevenberth caravans are available for hire, fully equipped (except for linen) at £12 per night. Sites for caravans and tents cost £3.50 per night, and trade stands are welcome. Anyone interested should send a SAE to Mass Eyeball, PO Box 1, Wigtown, Scotland DG8 9HA.



More thoughts and opinions from readers

Kent Coast Monitors Reply

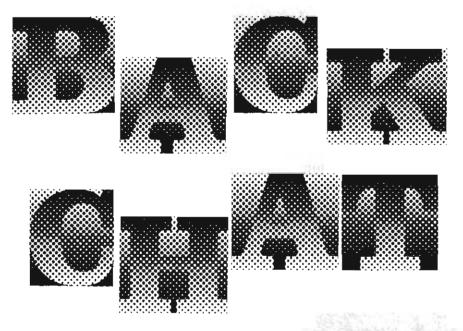
More on the Natcolcibar story, this time from Kent Coast Monitors . . .

We have read the article in the January issue of "CB Magazine" headed "Attack on Natcolcibar".

At the outset, we would like to make it clear that we had no knowledge this item was going to appear, nor were we consulted for permission to use the names of David Harding, Ken Forward and Kent Coast Monitors. Whilst the opinions expressed therein are undeniably ours, and are an honest assessment of what we observed over a period of time, it was not our wish that they should be made public. We do not indulge in mud-slinging and it was never our intention to launch a "blistering attack" on an organisation to which we still belong.

Presented in the form your readers saw it, it would certainly seem that way. They may therefore be surpised to know that the comments were made by five different people over the course of quite a long period of time. They appeared in reports which are put out to the KCM members after each Natcolcibar meeting. Your correspondent is one of our monitors and so would have received these reports. Taken singly, and bearing in mind that they were intended for those contributing to the annual subscription, the remarks might be considered fair comment. Grouped together as they were, and taken out of context, a different impression is created to that which was originally intended.

We appreciate that you have a duty to pass on to your readers any news and opinions relevant to CB, and from this standpoint we cannot fault you. But we would be glad if you could publish this letter so that your readers can be aware that we did not intend any "attack" on Natcolcibar and regret



that our name has been associated so prominently with opinions that are held not only be ourselves.

We would add that Natcolcibar now has a new Chairman (the fourth in twelve months) in the person of Brian Babbington from Rugby. We hope that, even at this late stage, he will be able to unite the membership and persuade them to pull together for the good of CB as a whole.

Business CB

LE3, a police officer, writes from Essex about CB for business use . . .

As a serving Police Officer I must take two of your correspondents to task in respect of letters published in the December 1985 issue.

Firstly, Worzel of Nottingham, in connection with CB being used for business purposes. I would suggest that he obtains an up-to-date licence as the information that he guotes from has not been on licences since 1983, and the corrected clause reads "12. The apparatus shall not be used for the purpose of advertising goods or services of any kind." The operative word being advertising. So long as the firm do not advertise in any way, they are committing no offence under the licence conditions, and are entitled to use the system as is any licenced operator, as a result we in South West Essex have to put up with a taxi service in Swanley, Kent on channel 9 with no recourse at law.

Secondly Mr M Wright's letter and his argument that CB does not cause interference to vital services. MrWright, I and many other police officers can assure you that CB does interfere a great deal with the emergency services' frequencies to such an extent that my own force has to close down two, sometimes three, channels a day because of CB interference, and as a result the additional traffic on the remaining channels causes a back-log in transmission times. It has been so bad of late that one county force has requested monitors like myself to attempt to identify the interference to request the operators to move frequency. I am happy to say that those operators, when informed of the situation, cleared the frequency forthwith and on a couple of occasions asked for information on how they could prevent it happening again. As a result of this interference, CB radio has a bad name with a lot of police officers, and those of us into the hobby have an uphill struggle to convince them that there is a lot of good in the hobby.

Natcolcibar Replies

Mrs Peggy Tapper, the administrative secretary for Natcolcibar and vicepresident of the European CB Federation, replies to a news story carried in the January issue...

With regard to your "Attack on Natcolcibar" in the January 1986 issue of your magazine, I would like to make several points.

Firstly, why is it that, although I sent a report of the Natcolcibar AGM held in Macclesfield in October, you saw fit to ignore that, but print such an inaccurate article as the one mentioned?

First of all, the "Blueprint for CB" that you refer to was not deferred for 18 months; it was only submitted to the members shortly prior to the Natcolcibar meeting in July 1985 - and was discussed in part at that meeting, but there were so many points in it that the members objected to and took offence at, that it was decided to leave it until the AGM at Macclesfield. At that meeting, the delegates of Kent Coast Monitors asked for it to be left until the November meeting as they had a train to catch. As they were not at the November meeting, it was not felt possible to deal with a document when the originators were not present.

As for the KCM delegates supposed remarks that the highlight of the day was the journey home, perhaps if they had taken part in the meeting properly. instead of abstaining on every matter that arose, they might have seen more purpose in the meeting. As it was an AGM what did they expect to happen?

I note that "council meetings dissolved into aimless waffle and shouting matches" — perhaps, to KCM, anything that does not concern Channel 9 directly *is* aimless waffle; but I can assure you that there are a lot more matters to be dealt with than just Channel 9, important though this is. Channel 19 and the work the trucking monitors do throughout the British Isles is also vitally important, but rarely gets a mention of praise.

You have, I think, made a misprint when you state that KCM covers most of the "country" — I think you mean "county". There are other monitoring organisations that have been in existence for as long as — if not longer than — KCM, including RAD (Rescue Aid and Distress) in the Rhondda valleys of South Wales, who do not seek to impose *their* will on others but who do just as important a job as KCM.

As for their hoping to bring "their sobering influence to bear on the council", there must be a crossed line somewhere here! I, personally, have seen no sign of this at any of the few meetings that delegates of KCM have attended. They only have attended the meetings that were held within a short distance of Kent — any distant meetings were deemed to be outside their range.

This is one of the reasons why Natcolcibar have decided to consider having a centralised venue — the January meeting was designated as an EGM at the time of the AGM in October to discuss and decide on this matter.

It is personal grudges that result in articles such as that you printed, and they do *nothing* for the cause of CB in this country. Natcolcibar is still a force to be reckoned with, despite the problems of the past year; and it still has many supporters.

Hurray for Handhelds

Buffalo Bill from Merseyside has been getting some good copies from a handheld . . .

I read with great interest your report on handhelds in the November issue so I thought I would tell you about my experience with the Maxcom 7E using a 12v dry cell rechargeable battery.

Up until six months ago, I lived in Hoylake and was using a homebase. Moving to my present address in New Brighton, I got myself a Maxcom 7E so that when I was in Hoylake or West Kirby I could keep in touch with my CB friends. However, I seem to be copying much further afield on my walkabouts in that part of the area. One Saturday in October last year, I was in a network and managed to copy Soldier Boy in the Isle of Man from West Kirby prom which is about 70 miles. I got into his station on a Radio 3. I know the signal went across water but, considering the stations were 70 miles apart and I was using a handheld, I think it was a pretty good copy! I forwarded a QSL card and am waiting for a return.

A couple of months ago, I got into a



Buffalo Bill is getting good results from his Maxcom

24-hour sponsored marathon from my station in West Kirby prom to their station which was based overlooking the Vale of Llangollen, 27 miles away (7 miles down the River Dee and then 20 miles overland). The breaker who brought me in said, "When you send in your QSL please state that you are using a handheld because they will never believe me!"

I have also copied the Mike Whisky 05 station who was mobile at the time in Bala, North Wales — 37 miles away. This is just a few of the exceptional copies I have had. I have made a lot of friends from good copies, having been on the air for six years. Just for the record, when I take a homebase breaker to a channel, I always ask him or her what the channel is like at their end, as I know that they can sometimes pick up signals I cannot hear. I hope that you get lots of letters from breakers who use handhelds to see what results they get from their sets. By the way, I have not yet tried the magmount supplied with the set. The set was brand new when I bought it and nothing has been done to it. I always say 'leave well enough alone', and use the standard twig on the set.

Keep 19 Free

Brandybird, from Coventry, makes a heartfelt plea to keep channel 19 clear for truckers . . .

As a fan of channel 19, I would like to make a desperate plea on behalf of all the mobile CBers who use this channel all over the country. We are (at the time of writing) in the depths of winter, possibly the worst parts with blankets of fog and black ice creating havoc on our roads and motorways. Channel 19 is used by all and sundry as a "breaking channel" from one homebase to another, completely regardless of what else might be going on on that channel.

From good manners, inbred into most of us, the majority of us treat CB as though we were talking face to face. We know channel 9 is the emergency channel (albeit unofficially) so please leave that channel to those usually trained and willing to monitor 9. The majority of us leave channel 9 alone, so why not other channels? Channel 19 is a 'mobile channel' set aside (again unofficially) for those using our roads and motorways. Fair enough, most of the time, it is used by truckers chatting to each other or passing the time of day with the many women who monitor 19. The drivers themselves will tell you there is nothing better to break the monotony of a long day's driving than to have a good 'sexy' chat to a female. It keeps them awake.

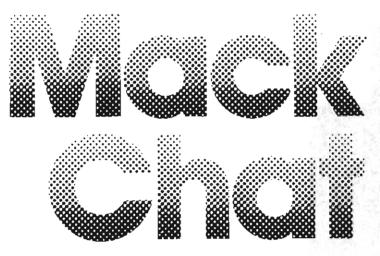
But then comes the important part. These drivers check with each other, or with the many homebase control points, about the condition of the roads in front of them, weather conditions, roadworks, blockages etc. This may seem extremely boring to those sat in the warm at home but it could mean time — or even lives — saved to those drivers. They ask for a 10-13 and someone, somewhere tries to answer them, but all the drivers hear is the monotonous, continuous drone of "Onenine for a copy. . .roger. . .rig check. . . 10-36. ..., completely blocking the channel.

Let's be fair about it, homebases want to — and surely are entitled to call other homebases on 19. I'm not saying that they shouldn't. All that I'm asking is that they use the sense they were born with, and the manners they should have been taught. Before you start talking, *listen* for a while first and if there is an important message being passed, keep quiet for a few minutes until the message gets through. Especially when you hear reports of fender-benders, heavy metal and squarewheeled traffic.

There was a saying during the last war, "Careless talk costs lives". It is as relevant today on channel 19 as it was during the war so, please, think first. I recently heard of a lorry driver who had been shouting for 10-13s for several miles and just couldn't hear any replies. All he heard was some fool trying to sell a CB (illegal in itself) and two women holding a long conversation. He continued his journey only to smash into the back of another lorry during a hold-up, seriously injuring himself and killing his young son. It is easy to say that if he hadn't got a CB he wouldn't have known anyway, but the point is that he did have a CB, he was trying to use it and was prevented by thoughtless idiots. His son could possibly still be alive if he had heard the warnings about square-wheeled traffic.

Anyone got a guilty conscience yet? Let's be honest, we've all done it. We have all blocked a channel without thinking and, with the speed of today's traffic, every second counts for drivers to receive and act upon information received. So, please remember, think first, listen, and let those important messages get through. It could quite easily be a member of your family whose life is put at risk because of "careless talk".

Letters should be addressed to: Back Chat, Citizens' Band, 1 Golden Square, London W1R 3AB





Mack the Hack moves his station on instructions from 'er indoors

want this lot out of here", said she, sweeping her arm around the room. 'Do what?" I replied, astounded, as her attention was focussed on my radio and computer equipment. "I think it's about time that we turned this back into our bedroom and if you are very good i'll let you decorate it", I was told. Of course my dear wife was right, as our sleeping quarters had, over the years, been taken over by my 'junk' and I suppose it's not really on to invite one's pals and occasional visitors into one's bedroom to view or operate certain bits of equipment especially when one's wife is in bed! Oh yes, it has been done.

So where do I put my treasures?" } asked her. "You can have part of the dining room if you can find a space", I was told. Although we call it the dining room and it does feature a table, chairs and sideboard, we have not dined in there for years. The dining room also contains a dartboard on the wall, freezer, sewing machine and a bicycle that, no matter how hard you pedal, never goes anywhere. Also in one corner was an old black and white TV that was on its last legs and hi-fi equipment also in the same state. I decided that I would clear out that corner and my new radio station would be situated there.

Dimensions

Out came the tape measure and dimensions were taken. After a trip to the local DIY superstore, I returned with the necessary materials to construct the work surface to fit into the corner. The old hi-fi unit fitted nicely under part of the worktop and, with extra shelves fitted, made valuable storage space. Under the remaining part of the worktop an old chest of draws is used for more storage. In the corner, on top of the worktop is a TVcome-monitor for the computer (a Spectrum) on the right of the TV. On the left are my radios. That also gives me enough space for my writing or any repairs or construction work that I might want to carry out.

Above all this, shelves were fitted for books and other homeless bits of radio equipment. For my added comfort, a second hand office swivel-chair was purchased. The worst job was rerouting the antenna cables. Fortunately, many of the cables could now be shortened which surely must be a good thing for the 934MHz, if only for the extra power that can reach the antennas now due to the reduced length of coax.

The advantage of the relocation is that I can now creep down in the early hours or even stay up late to play on the radio without disturbing the rest of the family. As for our bedroom, it once more looks like one, but the open spaces where my radio and other hobby bits used to be take some getting used to. I did suggest putting in a pool table but all I got was a thump for my effort!

For some time now, I have promised the lads at Truck King's that I would pay them a visit. "Come and see a real C8 shop," they kept telling me. Hearing that they had a three-day sale just after Christmas, I took myself to Garston. The shop itself is not large but that does not seem to matter, as it carries a super range of goods. I am sure many of you realise that there are very few CB shops around these days and some of the owners of these know this and their prices are none-too-cheap. Unlike many shops, I found Truck King prices very reasonable, Just check their adverts in this mag. I have been told that some people from many parts of the country make club trips to Truck King which I can now well believe.

Whilst I was visiting the shop I found myself searching amongst the goodies and finding some rare items that I thought were no longer available. Roger bleeps and other such gadgets have never really been my cup of tea, even echo mikes or boxes I believed unnecessary. However, I was recently given a demonstration by a distant station how effective a good echo chamber can be and since then I promised myself that I would obtain one. At the Truck King sale I saw and purchased an ES-880 at the sale price of £42 I thought it was a bargain not to be missed. I must thank the lads at Truck King for an enjoyable and enlightening couple of hours spent at their *real* CB shop.

I'm a little bit scared to mention the following, in case it wakes them up again but have you noticed how quiet the channels are these days? Yes, I know that there are still a few of the nauses around but I live just on the outskirts of London and some evenings recently I have managed to enjoy a waffle with other stations across the town. The early morning weekend networks seem to continue later into the mornings. This Christmas did not, it seems, bring many new people on the CB frequency, so I will keep my fingers crossed and pray that the peace on the 27 continues and is not just a figment of my imagination.

Rumour

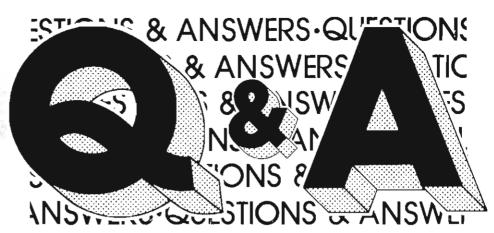
There is a rumour that another 934 rig could soon be seen on the market. This time it is a portable handheld unit. The brochure of this rig I saw shows it as an 80-channel transceiver, but this is for the Swiss market. We in this country would only see a 20-channel version. Also, from what I have been told, the power pack for this radio is detachable with alternative rechargeable packs available. The price is quoted at 1250 Swiss francs and that, in our money, is around £400 (ouch!) Will it sell if it becomes available? Yes, I expect a few people might be tempted but I confess I would not. The reason? Because, at the present time, my 934 radio is almost unuseable because of the cellular radio interference. It is still possible to communicate with a few local stations but even at times they get swamped with the tones or speech of the cellular radio. At the present time, nothing has been done to cure the problem and I get the impression that nobody seems to care, except 934 users.

A New Addition



Smart Alec tackles some more readers' problems

Problems should be sent to: CB Q&A, Citizens' Band, 1, Golden Square, London W1B 3AB



Computer Interference

lan Harrison, from Sedgwick, Cumbria, has an all too common problem . . .

Q When my Spectrum computer is turned on, a signal is transmitted onto my Realistic 2001 rig and shows a reading of S7 on channel 39 and S2-3 on all other channels. I have tried taking the aerial lead out of the computer but it made absolutely no difference, from which it would appear that the computer is on a frequency very close to that of my CB rig. I am surprised that the signal can reach my CB antenna, since it is on the roof of the house, whilst the computer is in a downstairs room. Please can you help²

A If I had an easy answer to this one, lan, I could make my fortune. Computers are, unfortunately a major source of interference to nearby radio receivers and I long ago resigned myself to the fact that I was unable to run any of my radios when my computer was in use.

It is doubtful whether the inter-



lan Harrison is suffering computer interference.

ference is entering the rig via the antenna. A far more likely explanation is that the RF is going direct from the computer or its leads to the circuitry of your rig. The Spectrum is neither better nor worse in this respect than any other computer, insofaras it uses two basic crystal frequencies, 1.8MHz and 14MHz, from which are developed a number of signals on other frequencies and, in any case, the entire problem really stems from the fact that even when a computer appears inactive it is far from idle.

Dependant upon its internal programming, the computer fires an "interrupt" every sixtieth or onehundredth of a second, the purpose of which is to check whether any action has been carried out within that time and whether, as a result, it should update the display.

I am afraid that the only real cure is somewhat drastic and therefore impractical. It is to encase the entire computer in a lead box and even that would not necessarily cure the interference unless the computer leads were similarly shielded.

Datsun Dilemma

Charles Trippet, from East Looe, Cornwall, is suffering from reception interference . . .

Q I have owned my present Datsun Cherry from new. It has a factory fitted AM pushbutton radio, covering the long and medium wavebands, on which reception is invariably perfect.

I have fitted a Cybernet Beta 2000 under the dash, in place of the ashtray and connected it to a magmounted Tagra T40 antenna. Power is taken from the adjacent cigar lighter socket.

I am told that my transmissions are clear, with no sign of interference or distortion, regardless of whether or not the engine is running but the same can only be said of incoming signals when the engine is switched off. With it running I experience a 'motor-boating' effect, which varies according to the engine speed and severely distorts incoming speech.

Enquiries made locally and over the air have offered no solution and I have been told that it is simply something which I shall have to suffer. It is obviously an ignition based problem and I would appreciate any suggestions which might help to alleviate it.

A Firstly, Mr Trippett, I must disagree most strongly with those who claim that you must just accept this annoyance, since there are a number of steps which you can take to aflect a cure. The first is to throw away that cigar lighter plug and find a means of tapping into the car's own circuitry. Feeding from a cigar lighter offers innumerable opportunities for electro-magnetic currents generated under the bonnet to find their way onto your receiver. The ideal answer to this point is to run a screened cable direct from the battery to the rig, thus eliminating the many connections and crossing points within the car wiring which can give rise to interlerence.

Moving the antenna lurther from the engine might also help, simply by placing it further away from the engine's magnetic field, though replacing the mag-mount with a gutter or boot-mounting will improve the earth connection and almost certainly improve matters.

Your description of the rising and lalling nature of the interference tends to make me suspect that the real culprit is not the ignition circuitry but the alternator, interference from which commonly takes the form of a whine which rises in pitch as revs increase, as the result of arcing at the slip-rings, although, in the majority of such cases, transmission is also affected, or, perhaps, an electric petrol pump. In either case this is easily cured by fitting a small filter, obtainable from any reputable auto electrical supplier, to the live contact.

Yet More on Co-phasing

In Colchester, Essex, Big Brother has been musing on antenna characteristics...

Q I am the proud owner of a Modulator Expert antenna, which is mounted on the roof and which gives me a working range well in excess of 15 miles. I would value your opinion on the feasibility of co-phasing a similar antenna with it. For instance, would local breakers experience bleedover from the array, using the permitted 4 watts?

What would happen if I ocassionally switched one of the antennae out of circuit? Would the unused aerial affect the radiation pattern of the one I was using? Finally please can you tell me whether a half-wave antenna has any gain over a quarter wave?

A The entire purpose of co-phasing a pair of antennae is to increase the amount of radiation in a fore and aft configuration, so the first effect you would notice would be a sort of oval pattern, in which your range to either side would be well below that achievable ahead and behind. It is important that you use a proper phasing harness, otherwise you will create a significant impedance mismatch, which would severely reduce your performance.

There is absolutely no advantage to this form of installation unless the antennae are sited at least a halfwavelength apart, since anything less will distort their radiation pattern and, although I can find no-one who has tried switching one of a pair in and out of circuit, I am inclined to believe that to do so would require a second feeder cable to the one which you intend to use at all times, since any attempt at bypassing part of the harness might result in a mismatch of disastrous proportions but, provided they are far enough apart, the antenna not in use is unlikely to affect the one you are using. You will not cause bleedover to

You will not cause bleedover to any of your neighbours, since this form of interference does not result from antenna installation but you may well get complaints of swamping from stations in the locality, as your effective radiated power will have increased. You might also find that you are causing TVI where none had previously occurred.

Mathematically a half-wave antenna exhibits some 3dB gain over a quarterwave, which is roughly equivalent to twice the e.r.p. but a half wave has a nominal impedance in the region of 75 ohms, which drastically reduces the effective improvement and also offers a greater likelihood of interference to other services.

Antenna Interaction

R. Busby, Delta 7, wants to know the likely effects of running both CB bands from his Croydon home...

 \mathbf{Q} I have been on channel for about eight months and am currently running a 27MHz radio on a Thunderpole Mk 2 aerial. I would also like to use 934MHz but am worried about what might happen if I run both aerials mounted on the same wall and both sets in the same room. For instance, can I expect to experience bleedover between the radios?

In the event that my suggestion is practical, please can you advise me as to what type of 934MHz aerial would be suitable?

A You need not worry, Mr Busby. You can run both the radios and the aerials as close together as you like, their operating frequencies are so far apart that they will be entirely unable to detect each others's signals, no matter what the working conditions. Many operators have successfully mounted both rigs in the same car without any problem, so you should have no difficulty in your home.

The question of the right antenna for 934HHz is very subjective. For the best all-round results an omnidirectional vertical antenna of up to four elements is desirable but if you are looking to direct the majority of your signal toward the station you are working at the time, you might like to consider mounting a beam antenna on one of the smaller rotators which are available. Although this will slightly increase your initial outfay, the results should be well worthwhile. The only drawback to this lorm ol installation is the lact that you will be unable to hear other stations who may be calling you from directions on either side of the antenna's present heading.

Why No SSB?

Tim, a regular correspondent to the magazine voices a question...

As a reader of your magazine for the past few years, I would like to talk about an aspect of CB very rarely discussed in your pages. For three years I have been an active SSB operator and I am a member of the Alpha Tango International DX Group, which has several thousand members worldwide with about 600 members in the U.K.

I would like to see in your magazine articles on SSB and propagation. These articles were in magazines around 1980-81 and were very interesting but since legalisation I haven't seen anything concerning this aspect of CB. After all, SSB operators are the most sensible and courteous of the CB operators. I think we deserve something from your magazine too. There are hundreds and thousands of us out here and get nothing from your magazine.

I and many other operators would contribute our part to any articles you wish to write — how about the European contest which is for SSB users on 27MHz — this year 2,000 CBers entered, I bet you didn't know that! Please let's see some more SSB stuff in the magazine. I promise it will sell like hot cakes!

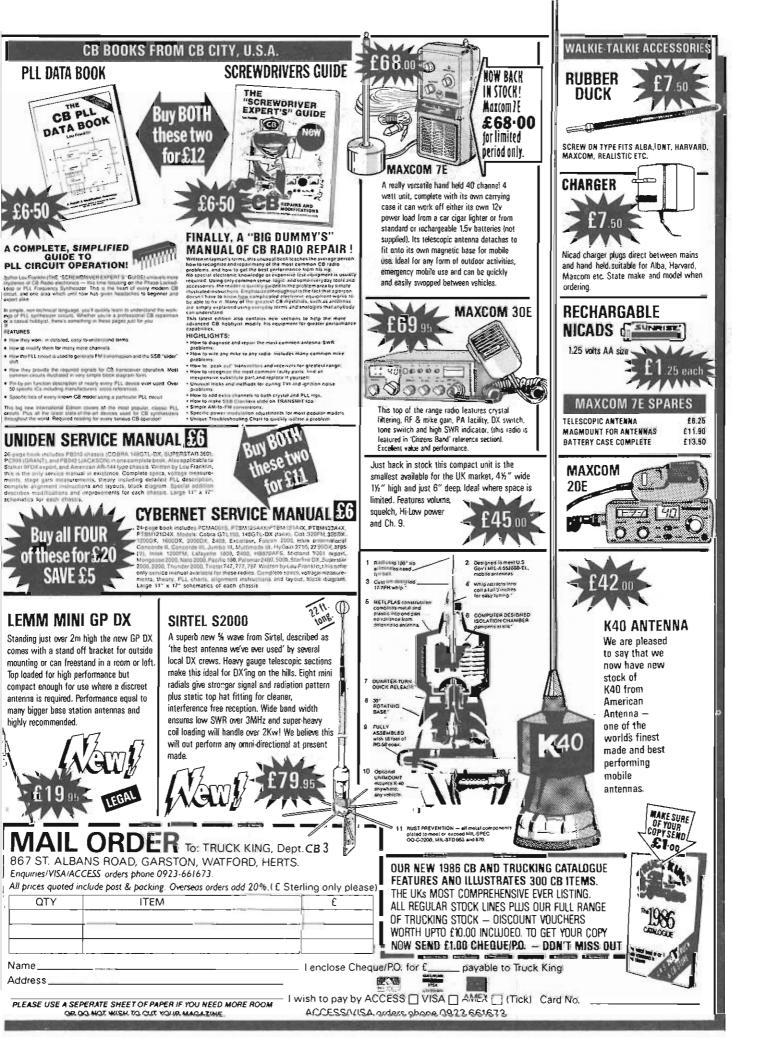
Tim asked for a personal reply, but we printed the letter so that we could reply to other people that have asked similar questions. Right, here we go; 1. We could be in a tricky position legally in writing about SSB. Like many other magazines of the time, we wrote about SSB before legalisation. It was justifiable in that we were discussing the possible service that we might get. Now we have a legal system (like it or not), we could be seen as condoning or encouraging illegal activities.

2. Although we get letters from people like Tim who are SSB enthusiasts, the vast majority of our readers and correspondants are legal CB users. From this we must infer that's what most of the readers want to read about.

3. Letters like Tim's let us know that there is some interest but don't actually let us have any information. No, we didn't know about the European competition. Why not? 'Cos no-one told us and even we can't be expected to know everything.

4. I'm not so sure that everyone would agree that SSB ops. are the most sensible and courteous. I'm not saying that they aren't sensible and courteous, just that they don't have a monopoly on good behaviour, just as FM CBers don't have a monopoly on bad behaviour. That's the most we can say without taking up the page, although that's not the end of the discussion. What do other readers think. More SSB? and what about that's ensible and courteous' bit...





i Breakers, welcome to Truckstop again. At the moment I am enjoying my two weeks Christmas holidays and must admit I could get used to lying

in bed, drinking tea. This month's article is a little different to the usual column. There will be a Cafe of the Month but very little else to do with trucks and trucking. However, I should be back to normal for the April issue. Before I go any further, I would like to thank my many, many CB friends from all over the country who have sent me and my family Christmas cards and good wishes. May we sincerely wish you all a very happy and prosperous New Year.

As I said above, this month's featured cafe is Jock's. The cafe is situated a quarter of a mile off the M4 junction 5 on the CoInbrook by-pass. It is open from 6 am until 9 pm Monday to Friday with meals available at all times, and Saturday 6 am until 12 pm. Also, there is accommodation available for 20 people with showers and TV and sleeper cabs are welcome. Food is excellent with plenty of choice; the only criticism I have got is the lack of parking space, but I use the cafe regularly and can recommend it.

On the 13th December, 15 members of the Telford Thunderbirds, including myself, went to an eyeball/ dance held by the Whiskey November DX Association. We spent a very pleasant evening with our friends from Wolverhampton and also the many DX stations who were there, with special mention to Terry, Texaco and the coach-load from Sheffield which included Frank, Lincolnshire Poacher and his wife.

Also on the same evening Big Daddy (Ian from Birmingham) and Harold (Stud from Ashby-de-le-Zouch) held a very special evening at Burtonon-Trent to try to raise money to help John (Yorkshireman) and his wife Chris (Goldilocks) who lost their home and all their belongings in a fire a few weeks previously. It is a shame that the two eyeballs were on the same night but lan assured me it was the only date available. He had originally been promised the 20th — but, never mind, both events were very well

Bit T finds some big-hearted breakers

CK

supported. I spoke to lan on the telephone and he tells me that up to the time of writing (the end of December), £1,500 had been raised. This included money raised from the eyeball and also the sponsored modulation held on the 9th and 10th November. It's great to see CBers sticking together to help each other and it's a pity we never seem to see items like this in the newspapers instead of the bad aspects of CB. Well done lan, Harold and everyone who helped to donate so much to such a worthy cause and lan assures me that QSL cards and a personal thanks will go to everyone concerned. One last sad note to end this already tragic story is that John and Chris's two dogs were burned to death in the fire.

Telford lost one of it's best known breakers this week - my old friend Chemical Man (Malcolm). He decided to sell all his equipment and has told me that he had just lost interest as he no longer got any fun out of his rig. I think it's the same all over the country - the wallies seem to be increasing each week. Why don't the DTI do something? These are the sort of breakers we don't want to lose. I telephoned our local DTI and spoke to one of their officers. I asked him if he would come up to our club to meet most of the decent local breakers (invitations have been sent to other local clubs). He has promised to come and tells me that, if we can give him names and eddresses of our local offending wallies and bucket mouths, he will try and prosecute - I will let you know what happens.

Twice during my Christmas holidays I actually got up early (5 am) to have a flick round the channels to see who was about and I was pleasantly surprised to find many of the DX stations hard at it. Mr Fixit, Chris and Seven Iron were cracking into Telford as were Peter, Yachtsman, Happy Harry, Henry, Battler, Terry and my old mate Gemini One from Derby. Ian (Big Daddy) had a nice network going from Bala into Wolverhampton and the Midlands with Roger, Headstone, Pete, Rhino and Seiko, Bob having some fun going north — its a shame that CB isn't always that good.

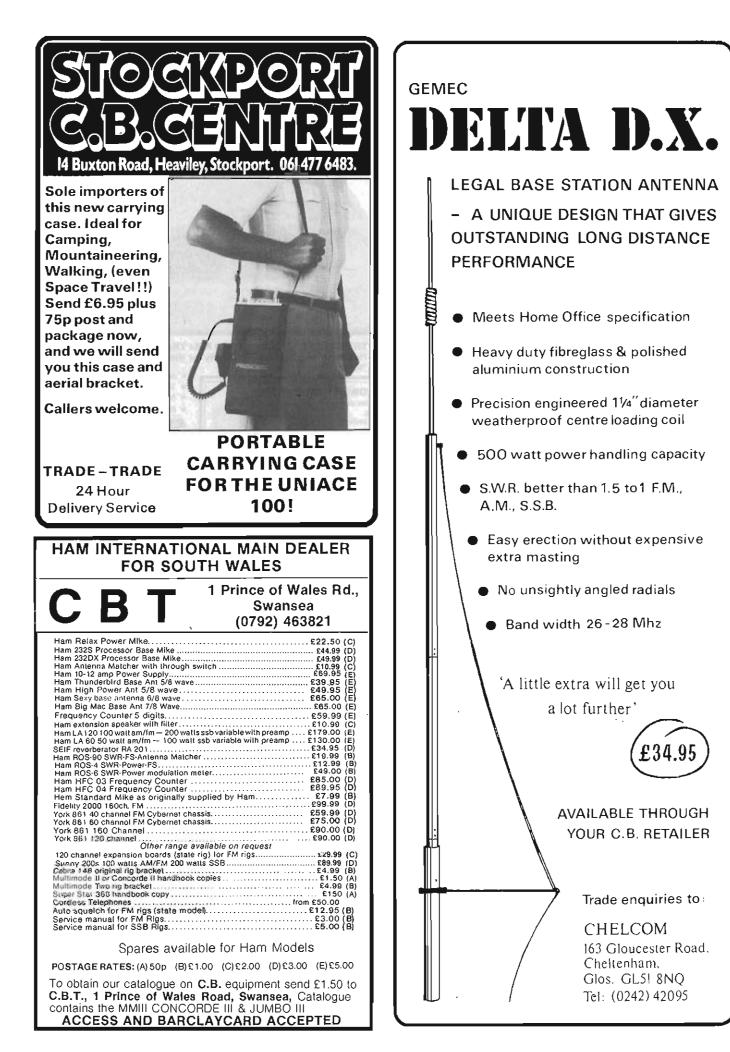
As I have said many times in this column, it's very strange writing at Christmas what you, the reader, will be reading in March but I am slowly getting used to it so, although it is December 1985, mine and other peoples thought's, I am sure, are on the 1986 eyeballs. The first one will be Caerphilly at Easter, closely followed by our own at Telford.

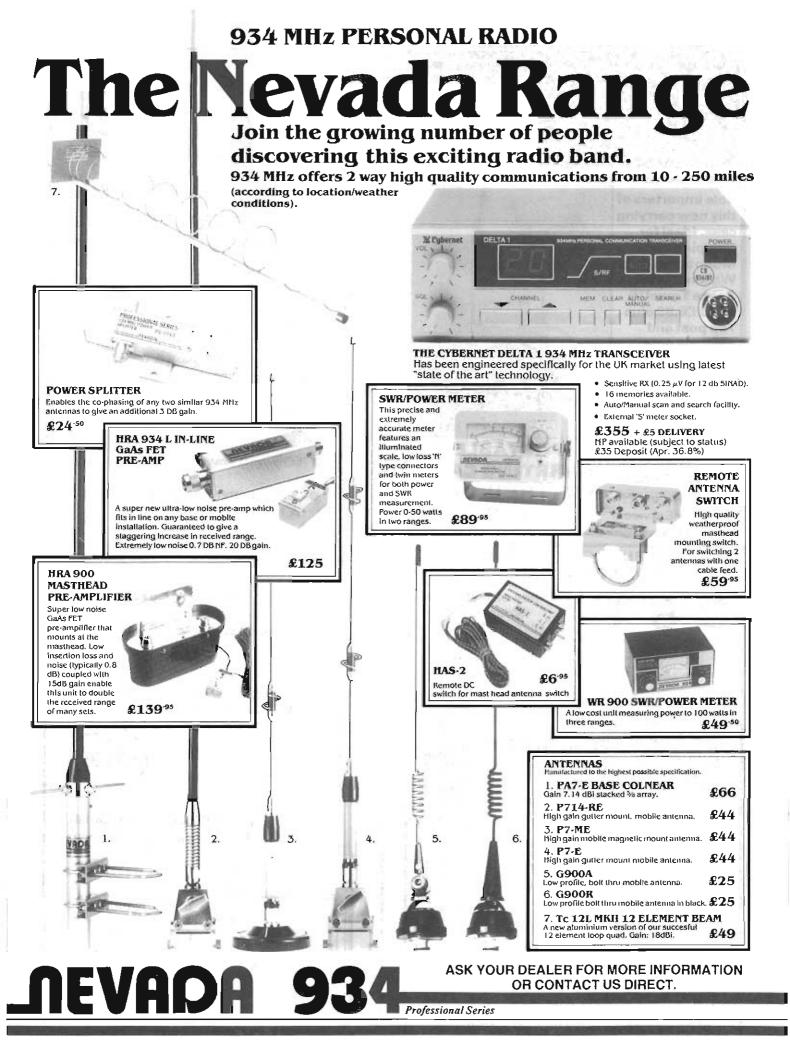
This year will be the same as last, with our friends the Lima November DX Group holding their fourth open air Spring Fayre/eyeball on Sunday 25th May and our group, the Telford Thunderbirds holding our second indoor eyeball/ dance on Saturday 24th May. Last year, both events were very successful but I can assure you that this year's will be even better — anyone wanting information on the Telford dates, please write to me at PO Box 555, Telford, Shropshire, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope and I will gladly oblige.

The week before my holidays, my Scania was due for a service at Ryders, Oldbury. As usual, I had to have one of Ryders' spare units - more often than not we get another Scania or one of their Bedfords, but on this occasion they gave me a 'B' registered Leyland Roadtrain, 6-wheel unit and that's when the fun started. After a quick inspection by Ryders to check for previous damage, I was handed the keys. One of the mechanics told me to beware as it gets stuck in the lower gears. "Why not send it back to get it gears. "Why not send it back to get it fixed?" say I, "They are all like this," says he. Oh well, here we go, third gear, clutch out - what's under this bonnet?

On to the 4123 Birmingham New Road — I think I will go back to Telford via the M5, M6, M54. Onto the M5 working up the gears, nice smooth box, top gear 2000 revs, a quick look at tacho, 70 miles per hour, never mind it's only because she's empty. Back to Telford, a little bit of extra care with the brakes because on this they are very good. Where to tomorrow? Hope it's Scotland. With all that lovely motorway, it would give it a good test. No such luck, it was Norwich — 200 miles each way, mostly single-lane roads. Well better luck next time. Stay lucky.

Big T





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A visit from a brother-inlaw causes Filly some problems

t's true what they say. You can choose your friends, but you're stuck with your family.

Normally, I manage to avoid family visits with a skill born of long practice. I am very adroit. I

never make the same excuse twice. If we're not in the middle of decorating, we've just had a burst water pipe. If we're not putting in central heating, or taking the central heating out, we've got friends to stay, or we'll be away visiting the in-laws that weekend.

Of course, we can use each excuse twice, once for his family and once for my family, but there are times when I think they've noticed.

"Why are you going suffing in Cornwall", a cousin asked once, "in the middle of November?" Well, even I can slip up. It's not that we don't get on with our families, it's just that

LADY BREAKERS

well, one relation penetrated our defences the other week, so you'll see what I mean.

His tactics were simple but effective. He turned up without warning one Friday evening, and unfortunately, we were in. The house was in perfect repair. No suitcases were packed. No visitors were in possession of the spare room. There was nothing we could do.

"Howdy, folks", he greeted us cheerily as we opened the door (he'd recently spent a year in America). It was my husband's brother, a sixties dropout.

Ensconced in my favourite armchair, having disposed of most of the contents of the fridge, he caught sight of my base station.

"CB radio!" he exclaimed enthusiastically. "I never knew you two were good buddies! Let's have the mike, then!"

"Er", I said, nervously.

"Aw, c'mon, love, I've seen these things before, y'know, in the States. I know the lingo. D'you read me, Roger, over and out, that's a big ten-four, Smokey on the prowl, let's have an eyeball, and all that. Let's have a go."

"It's broken!" I said, desperately, but of course someone chose that precise moment to come on the air.

"Naughty, naughty", the obnoxious visitor said heartily, plucking the mike from my hand.

Joker

"This is Joker calling, Joker calling, do you read me, buddies?" No one responded, possibly because he had omitted to press the mike transmit button.

"C'mon, folks, Joker calling, it's Friday night, where's the action round here?"

There was the crackle of more voices as another conversation started up on the channel. Brother-in-law scowled at the mike.

"Hey, they're ignoring me. Don't they like strangers round here? Hey, you lot, where are your manners? Talk to me, people!"

I was just beginning to think he was about to tire of it and I was safe, when he spotted the button.

"Ah, I get it. Neat, that. You press this button here, right? Gotcha. Here we go. Joker calling, anyone out there? Anyone read me, over?"

I cringed in my chair, but there was no sound from the radio.

"There, they've gone, might as well turn the set off now", I said, hoping he didn't know there were 40 channels.

"Aw, c'mon, it's only nine o'clock, there must be someone in the whole of the Big Smoke listening."

"London's thirty miles away", I said, tartly, "This is the country, you know, farmers and such, they always go to bed early. Give me the mike".

His face fell, then brightened. "Tell you what, why don't you go out in your car and talk to me on the radio you've got in there? And don't tell me you haven't got one! I saw the aerial!"

Electricity

I was about to tell him that the mobile rig was, regrettably, not working, when it occurred to me that the channel was still strangely silent. An awful suspicion struck me

"Hey", said our visitor, "can I let go this button now?"

It was no good, he had to go.

"All right", I said cunningly, "we'll go out in the car, and send you a message, right? You sit here, and *don't* press that button or you won't be able to hear us."

We went out into the hall. "Quick", I hissed, "turn the electricity off!"

"What?" squeaked my husband. "What about the freezer? The clock on the video? The central heating?"

"Do you want that idiot here all weekend, upsetting every breaker for miles around, eating all the food, drinking all your scotch, playing with your train set?"

The train set clinched it. He turned off the electricity, I grabbed the toothbrushes, we fled to the car and shot off down the road ... and down another road ... and on to the main road ... and on to the motorway... and off the motorway ... and on until we found a little pub buried in the depths of the country, where we spent a blissfully peaceful, brother-in-law-free weekend.

Well, we lost the food in the freezer (it didn't defrost, brother-in-law ate it), we had to put the base station together again (he'd taken it apart in an attempt to find out what was wrong with it), and when he finally left in a huff he forgot to close the front door with the result that when we arrived back on Monday morning, two stray dogs, a cat and a sheep were in residence. But the house was our own again, and no one ever discovered that Joker, the buttonpushing imbecile, was in any way related to me. an sector of a sector with

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With the CEPT frequencies due to be adopted next year, Chris Peterson looks at a brand new conversion board

t seems like only yesterday that we were all scrabbling for conversion boards to get American and European CB rigs working on the UK 27MHz band. The decision, back in 1981, to put the British CB band in a completely non-standard part of the spectrum pleased no-one except a few Whitehall mandarins, for whom it was a facesaving excercise. The legitimate users of the band in those dim and distant days were nearly as outraged as the CB lobby. The mandarins were adamant that the band of frequencies used everywhere else in the world couldn't be used because of the existing legitimate users of the band, neglecting to add that those same legitimate users were desperate to get off 27MHz for obvious reasons, and were only being prevented from doing so by those selfsame mandarins!

As committed Europeans, the Government were forced to add a rider that should a common CB specification be adopted at some future date, then Britain would of course comply with it. Almost immediately the Europeans announced a common CB specification to be implemented as soon as practical. The new spec was to be 40 channels, 4 watts FM on, surprise surprise, the American FCC frequencies. Most existing European equipment already meets this specification, though not necessarily to its full advantage, with the exception of Britain! In Britain, although the power modulation and number of channels are right, the frequencies are completely wrong!

ERSION

Now the frequencies are determined by a fairly complex little circuit known as a Phase Locked Loop Synthesizer, or PLL for short. To comply with the regulations of most countries, though curiously not Britain, the PLL circuits have to be designed in such a way as to prevent them being modified to operate on non-standard frequencies. This is usually achieved by limiting the number of input pins available to the device, and burning the necessary data into a read-only memory within the IC. However, human ingenuity knows no bounds, and there is at least one quite complex modification available that allows amateurs to use synthesized CB rigs on the 10 metre amateur band!

Changeover

Returning to our own problems, it appears that there will be a changeover period starting in 1987 (late in 1987, knowing our authorities!). During this period, existing rigs can continue to be used, but all new rigs must operate on the FCC frequencies, though still in FM of course! After a period of time, as yet undecided, the existing UK frequencies will be withdrawn from use.

Most of the rigs currently available on the British market employ one of two synthesizer ICs. The most common is the LC7137 that is used by rigs using the Cybernet chassis. It is also used in the Maxcom chassis, and many others too.

We have recently been supplied with a conversion board that will convert a Cybernet chassis from the UK frequencies to the FCC frequencies, and allow the rig to be switched from one mode to the other. The boards are provisionally priced at £18.50 each, and, it is claimed, are simple to fit.

Although intended for the Cybernet chassis, the instructions indicate that the board might be suitable for use in other rigs using a 7137 synthesizer,

The board comes wrapped in heatshrink sleeving with one end slightly cut back to reveal an IC socket. There is a ribbon cable with a 16-pin dil plug on the end and a number of flying leads. Peeling back the heatshrink to examine the works for the purposes of this review revealed a nicely made printed circuit board containing quite a few components. Most notable were a TC9109 FCC synthesizer IC and a 2764 eprom. A single crystal is used to provide the oscillator function for both synthesizers. The TC9109 is used as it appears to be the only FCC synthesizer that uses frequency doubling to achieve transmit frequency output, as does the 7137. The 7131, (the US version of the 7137) mixes the VCO output with the 10.24 crystal oscillator to achieve TX frequency, and thus could not be used in a conversion without considerable modifications to the rig.

To fit the conversion board it is first necessary to remove the 7137 from the rig. This is not a job for the inexperienced! Even experts wince at the prospects of safely removing a 20 pin IC from a packed PC board! To achieve this with any chance of success requires a good soldering iron with a fine bit. A lightweight 15 watt iron with a 1/8" bit is ideal, and a solder sucker. The best solder suckers are those that act like a bicycle pump in reverse. A spring loaded plunger is depressed and locked in position. When the joint is heated and the solder liquid, the nozzle is placed over the joint and the trigger button depressed. The plunger springs out and the liquid solder is sucked up the barrel. These tools are very effective but, again, care and practice is needed to extract an IC without damage!

Crystal

The crystal also has to be removed from the rig and discarded. The 7137 IC is now carefully inserted into the spare socket on the conversion board. Again, extreme care is needed in this operation. It is very easy to get the legs out of alignment and bend them when pushing the IC home. Once a leg is bent, it will probably snap when straightened, and the IC is then useless. A new 7137 will cost you about £8! Also IC sockets are not usually intended to take ICs that have been removed from boards, and thus still have blobs of solder on the leas! The leas should be cleaned carefully with the soldering iron before trying to insert it into the socket, taking great care at the same time not to get the IC itself too hot!

Next, the 16-pin plug on the flying lead is pushed into the holes vacated by the 7137 on the rig's board. The astute amongst you will have noticed that the plug has 16 pins and there are 20 holes, but holes 9, 10, 11 and 12 are not used at this stage. Next the flying leads are connected, one to hole 11, one to a suitable ground point and the other to the switched 12-volt supply line. This leaves three wires; green, pink and blue. With the pink connected to the green wire, the UK band is selected. With the pink connected to the blue, the FCC band is selected. This can be achieved by a switch, of course.

The conversion board contains a red LED to indicate that the PLL is locked. With the UK band selected, the LED should remain lit across all 40 channels both on receive and on transmit. Next, the FCC channels are selected, and the procedure repeated. If the LED does not remain lit across all 40 channels, then the VCO coil will need adjusting. Since this is always sealed with wax, the wax has to be removed *very carefully* with a screwdriver before adjustment can be made. The reason for the extreme care is that the ferrite slugs in these coils are very brittle, and easily shattered by hard objects like screwdrivers! Having removed the wax, the coil should now be adusted with a non-metallic tuning tool until VCO lock is achieved across all 40 channels.

Next, it must be checked to ensure that it stays in lock across all 40 channels when transmitting, and this is achieved by adjusting a small variable capacitor on the rig. Once lock has been achieved across all 80 channels, the coil should be locked again with wax. The easiest way of doing this is by dripping wax from a burning candle down it!

Instructions

The instructions supplied with the conversion board are adequate as far as they go, and anyone with a bit of experience of working on radio circuits should have no problems. However if all you have ever done is solder a lead on a mic, then that is *not* sufficient experience to tackle this sort of conversion, and more experienced assistance should be sought!

Returning to our sample, unfortunately we didn't have a Cybernet board available at the time of this review! Therefore a Midland 2001 was pressed into service.

The 16-pin plug on the flying lead had been fitted the wrong way round. Physically this doesn't make much difference, but it means that pin marked 9 rather than 1 has to go into hole 1. Anyone following the instructions shouldn't have any problems, but it could confuse someone unfamiliar with these circuits. Having fitted the board, initially we couldn't get the PLL to lock up on the UK channels on both TX and RX. By adjusting the VCO coil (L116) we could get it to lock on one or the other, but not both at once! A quick examination of the circuits of the Midland and Cybernet chassis revealed that the Midland had an extra diode connected to pin 20 (the TX-RX line) for no apparent reason. Shorting this diode out brought about an immediate improvement, and lock was now achieved across all the UK channels. Switching to the FCC frequencies revealed that lock was lost on the lower channels. Careful adjustment of the VCO coil produced a point where all channels could be locked, but only iust

To be fair, this is a problem that is unlikely to arise on a Cybernet chassis. The PLL works by a control voltage to a Voltage Controlled Oscillator (VCO) to adjust its frequency. The higher the frequency, the higher the control voltage. Now in the transmit mode, the VCO is running at half the final output frequency. In the receive mode it is running at the final frquency minus 10.695MHz. Thus, the frequency of the VCO in receive is always higher than in transmit. So the highest control voltage is required on channel 40 receive, and the lowest on channel 1 TX. The point at which the PLL loses lock is about 7 volts at the high end and about 0.3 volts at the low end. In practice, the VCO volts measured at

the test point on the rig should be kept between 1 volt and 6 volts. Incidentally, this is a far better way of adjusting the VCO than waiting for the LED to light. In practice, the LED tends to flicker every time you adjust the VCO coil, however gently you do it.

however gently you do it. Now on a Cybernet rig, an extra capacitor is switched across the VCO coil in the transmit mode to minimise the voltage swing necessary between TX and RX modes. The Midland doesn't bother, and thus requires more voltage swing than a Cybernet to cover all 80 channels. Indeed, it barely makes it.

Frequencies

The fitting instructions mention this and suggest reducing C23 (33pF) to extend the VCO range. I'm not convinced that this is the correct way to go. Not only will this affect the VCO range, but also the deviation, which would then require resetting. Nevertheless, we did reduce the equivalent capacitor (C215) on the Midland. Not only was this tricky, because it was buried in wax, but it didn't help! A more promising approach seemed to be to increase C219 (C26 on the Cybernet). This is easier since it can be achieved by tagging an extra capacitor across the back of the board in parallel with the existing one. On the Midland, this will not affect the deviation, though it probably will on the Cybernet. (On the other hand it shouldn't be necessary on the Cybernet as prevolusly explained.)

Having done this mod, we now had lock right across all 80 channels well within the lock range of the PLL. A quick frequency check showed that the frequencies were within 500Hz on both the UK and FCC frequencies. Deviation was exactly the same on the UK channels as before the modification, but was slightly less on the FCC channels. Not really sufficient to worry about however!

There seemed to be a few low level "birdies" present on the FCC bands for reasons that weren't immediately apparent. However, on the air (in the receive mode only!) we could hear a couple of distant paging systems quite clearly, and comparable in strength to the received signal on a communications receiver.

In conclusion, the conversion board achieved everything it claimed, and for £18.50 must be a reasonable buy. However, I would question whether anyone could instal it and would suggest that installation should be left to a competent 'rig-doctor'. Finally, please remember that the FCC channels are still illegal at the time of writing. All our tests have been carried out on dummy loads without radiating a signal. If you get caught using the FCC frequencies at the present time you face a hefty fine and confiscation of your equipment. There are still legitimate users on these channels and you upset them at your peril!

The FCC Conversion Board is available from S. J. Tonks (CB Components), 18. Simmonds Place, Wednesbury, West Midlands. Telephone 021-526-3154.

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David Shepherdson with more news about QSL clubs and QSLers



his month I'd like to start off by mentioning a DX/ QSL Contest that has been running since the start of the year. This is the Sea Dragon DX QSL Club's All

Counties DX Contest. It is open to all Sea Dragon members and is free to enter. The contest runs until the end of the year and applies to QSOs, on legal UK FM of course, with Sea Dragon members. For further details, entry forms, rules etc, please send a SASE (Self Addressed Stamped Envelope) to Ken (SD 001) at PO Box 2. If you are not a member of the Sea Dragon and wish to enter, do not despair, membership is free, just send a largish SASE (18p stamped) with five signed and dated personal QSL cards. The Club also offers a club stamp at £2.50, Currie-style club cards at £2.50 per 100, POMA cards at £6.50 per 100 and key kings at 25p each (plus a SASE for the keyring). Cash or postal orders only please, the Club does not accept cheques.

About this time last year, we in the UK were expecting a visit from Jorgen Hansen of the Toucan Club in Venezuela. As indeed were several people in Europe but, as regular readers will already know, this never happened. In fact, no one knew what had happened until about October, then some overdue packages started to arrive. Anyway, to clear things up, what actually happened was that a couple of weeks before the actual visit, Jorgen collapsed and was rushed into hospital where he was finally instructed by the doctors there to have at least three months total rest without any stress at all. This meant that he was not allowed to even see the pile of post waiting for him! So, who knows, perhaps this year will see Jorgen fit enough to make the trip but, whatever happens, we wish him all the best with his continued recovery.

Okay, time for a few names here starting off with one from Norway. Leif (*Charles Oscar 001*) of Oslo drops me a line asking for a mention, saying that he is the President of the Charlie Oscar DX Club of Norway, but I do not have any details on this club, only that he runs it and draws all his cards himself.

Next up is David (Korky) with a great Currie "Independent Artist's" Series Card, and from Ian (The Kestrel) a pile of POMA and other FCC cards, and he says he would appreciate a mention and does QSL 100%. From Andy (Nighthawk) of Crewe, a whole pile of superb high-gloss Currie "Collector Series" cards which are really excellent! These rival the Applejack series of Currie Cards, in my own opinion. Obviously, tastes differ but, to me, these new Currie Cards really are something! Many years ago, when I started QSLing, after reading some pages similar to these, I had some Currie Cards printed for use as 'floaters'. These were to be used alongside my own cards, not instead of them, as some people seem to do these days. Anyway, these cards were of the outline picture style, specifically a per-sonalised English International DX Club (now sadly closed down) and it has been interesting to compare how Des Currie's artwork and even his printing has changed over the years. His quality and speed has always been excellent, but after this new Collector Series, I do wonder, what will be next? Keep it up Des!

Right, on with some club info now, with a letter from Matt (Brown Bear) of Belfast who reminds me about the Mount Bay Skippers of Cornwall. Some while ago, I asked if this club was still operative, as some people had sent off money and letters and not heard anything. Well, Matt has done the same and, again, nothing has been heard from them. Can anyone cast any light onto the condition of this club? Also, while on the subject of asking for info, even though a month or two back I said that I had finally heard from D'Zine of Preston to the effect that Don had been ill and had been therefore unable to print cards, I am still receiving letters to the effect that he is still not supplying cards to some people. If anyone can shed any light on this subject, I and many other people would be grateful.

I've just had a (long) letter from the ol' JR of the ABC Club in Cheshire who bends my earhole about the fact that all the people who have been writing in to me saying that they have the last of the Wizard designed cards are wrong! He has it! And to prove this, he has sent me one. This one really is the end. it's marked "The Last in the Wizard Series", and where the number goes, there's the word end instead. Our best regards go to Alex (The Wizard) who has had to give up QSL card designing/ printing due to continuing ill-health. All the best, Alex. Membership of the Atlantic Breakers Club (ABC) costs £6 and ten QSL cards to join. For this one can expect your ABC No., ID card, certificate, club stamp and cards etc. Also, for an extra £2.50 per year, you can subscribe to a bi-monthly newsletter which includes both the infamous Buck Fuzby and the fantastic spelling mistakes of JR himself! Well worth getting for that alone, never mind the info included.



O.SLER ADDR

Leif (Charlie Oscal

Ian (The Kestrel)

David (Korky)



Moving on now, I've a letter from Bob (Rocket Man) who is now the proud owner/president of the Mermaid DX QSL Club, formerly of Denmark, now of Shildon, Co Durham. He lets me know that he now has a new set of Club QSL cards available in the Currie Card style at £3.00 per 100, and that he is now the UK representative for a Swedish firm of cloth patch makers. If interested in this, please drop Bob a line, with SASE of course. To join the New Look Mermaid Club costs £3 (cash) and between 10-15 signed and addressed personal QSL cards. For this amount you get your Mermaid number, ID card, certificate, 10 club cards, key ring, XYL No. and card, DX-QSLing tips, exchange cards and invites.

One point that I would like to raise

Curries (Printers)

POMA (UK Rep-Ray)

QSL Service Addresses:



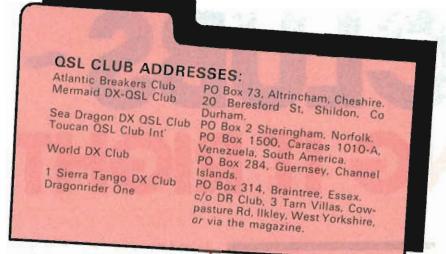
here is about the cards that some people use when joining a club. Many clubs state that the cards with which you apply to join them should be personal ones, and not another club's. This is often considered an insult as these people apparently cannot be bothered to read the invitation, or intend to insult the club by suggesting that the club is not worth their own cards! If you have just started QSLing, than you may not yet have any personal

submitted and an other states and	AND ADDRESS OF ADDRESS
PRICE	S: 051011
SLER ADDRESSE	S: PO Box 79, Ljan, 1113 OSLO 11,
if (Charlie Oscar 001)	Norway.
avid (Korky)	Sunderland, A Eashing Farm Cott, Eashing Lin,
an (The Kestrel)	Godanning, Road, Clewor
Andy (Nighthawk)	Cheshire. AT Empais St. Belfast 12, Northern
Matt (Brown Bear)	Ireland. IV Rep Cupido, PO Box 5, Clacton
Alan (Red Monkey)	on-Sea, E. Sussex. 62 Borough Rd, Middlesborough.
George and Ann (Snakebite) Steven (Bed Bug)	PO Box 2, Stonehouse, Glos. PO Box 2, Stonehouse, Glos.
Simon (Missing Link)	on-Sea E. Susse 27, Southport
Noel (Tojo)	Merseyside. 29 Oak Green, Old Park Farm Est.
Carol (Horseshoe 35)	Dudley.

cards. If so, you really should rectify this as soon as possible. After all, this hobby is QSL card collecting and club cards are, of course, welcome and do help to fill your package up but, strictly speaking, these should be used alongside your own cards, not instead of them. There are many firms who cater for the QSLer; many advertise in this magazine and several, at least those who drop me a line from time to time, get mentioned in these very pages. Read the adverts and think seriously about it; everyone appreciates a nice personal QSL

89 Derwent St, Blackhill, Consett, PO Box 106, Canterbury, Kent.

> A letter in from Alan (Red Monkey) here tells me that he has been appointed as the UK representative for the Cupido QSL Club of Belgium, or rather formerly of Belgium, having moved to Rotterdam recently. For costs of membership, you'll have to drop Alan a line please. He also recommends the Dutch Trucking QSL Club of Rotterdam which has had



its troubles in the past, due partly to the youth of a couple of its presidents, but, happily, now that it has been taken over by Fred (Isjco) the Club is well on its way again.

Back in the September issue J mentioned that another club had been taken over, or rather had had many changes in its structure and I said that membership to the World DX/QSL Group was open only to over 16s. Well, a letter from the Club has let me know that this has also changed; now any CBer/QSLer is welcome to join. Membership to the WDX (Guernsey) costs £5 plus five cards (cash or postal order) for which you can look forward to receiving your WDX No, certificates, ID cards, 10 Club QSLs, stickers, invites, newsletter, welcome letter, roster, RST code etc. A new issue of Club Card is available and shows the flag of Guernsey, in red and yellow.

Right, last month I said that I would start off an occasional slot this time, in which I would have a browse through the occasional club's package that I receive. This is not a "Club of the Month" spot, merely a more in-depth examination of a club's pack. As I've four or five tucked to one side, I guess I had better make a start! This time, the 1 Sierra Tango DX Club of Essex. The Club is run by Peter (1 ST 03) and was founded in May 1982 as an offshoot of the Braintree Breakers Club (a local one) and, as this received a lot of interest from QSLers, it was decided to open up the membership outside the immediate area.

Anyway, membership costs £5 (cash, not cheques by the way) plus a number of your cards. For this, you get a bulky envelope, very-well packed, consisting of your Unit No. and certificates, club roster, stickers, 20 club cards, 10 QSL certificates, exchange cards and invites, president's and vice-pressies' cards, tourist info etc. However, a club stamp is *not* included, but two different designs are available at £3 each. Also the Club QSL cards now include a couple of new designs. Details of prices of these are sent upon joining.

Just before I run out of room again, I'll do my best to slot in a few last names starting with a change of address here; George and Ann (*Snakebite* and *Fire Lady*) have moved to 162 Borough Road, Middlesborough, and they ask me to let as many people as possible know; so consider it done. From Steven (*Bed Bug*) of Stonehouse comes a selection of cards of all sorts, with the comment that he QSLs 100%.

Also, he and Simon (*Missing Link*) of Sussex have mentioned something that I would dispute, being part of QSLing! They have drawn my attention to the problem that some people take the addresses from the mag for uses other than QSLing. The main ones which cause offence include political or religious groups. Obviously, no-one can stop this practice, but if they want to waste their money posting "bumf" out to you, all you need to do is chuck it away, or mark it Return to Sender. Happily, I don't get much of this sort, as the people involved know that they are in the wrong in using *Citizens' Band* as their source and also they wouldn't like what I might have to say about them!

From SC #155, Noel (*Tojo*), of Southport, comes a pair of SC Cards showing an ancient Japanese warrior with some hieroglyphics; I never know from which direction to read them! And the final name for this month is from Carol (*Horseshoe 35*) who says that she has been having trouble with her post sent to her home AD, and is now using her mother's and asks me to pass same on.

Okay, that's it once more, if you want a mention, or have a problem or comment you want to make, drop me a line and I'll see what can be done. If you want a reply then please do enclose return postage but don't expect to see anything in the following month's pages. It does take a little time to go from my typewriter to turning up on the shelves. Also, if you are organising an event which will by of national (or international) interest, please do let me know in good time! That's it, take care 'til the next time. Dragonrider One





Ithough a few CB rigs managed to find their way across the Atlantic in the early seventies, it was not until the latter half of the decade that public interest in CB as a means of communication created a real demand. The only problem was the fact that, although there were dozens of American dealers only too willing to reduce their own stocks by meeting this demand, importation into Britain was illegal and anyone found bringing rigs in faced pretty stiff penalties.

Nevertheless, the number of rigs in circulation kept on growing, as more and more people discovered a new means of communication and an entirely new interest. Here, for the first time, was a relatively inexpensive means of keeping in touch with the wife, or arranging to meet friends and of talking to a host of people you had never met. Never mind the fact that it was just a little illegal. After all, nobody was doing any harm by just talking.

Unfortunately, those responsible for ordering the pattern of our lives saw things somewhat differently. They appeared to concern themselves with some strange phenomena called breakthrough and harmonics and generally went about trying to make life difficult for people who wanted nothing more than to be left to converse with one another in peace. So, maybe the rest of society did not understand much of the lingo, but who cared?

It was this unfortunate clash of interests which led to the formation of Britain's first CB clubs. On the age-old principle of 'united we stand', small groups of breakers joined forces, with the common aim of attempting to change the establishment's attitude to their hobby and to offer the maximum protection from official harassment. Often started by small groups of under 20 breakers, it was not very long before some of these pioneering clubs, most of which are now, sad to say, defunct, boasted memberships in excess of 2,000 and the biggest problem faced by most of them was the recurring need for bigger and bigger venues.

Although many clubs only met once a month, it was commonplace to enrol anything up to a hundred new members on the evening of a meeting Over the years, we've all seen many CB clubs come and go. Keith Townsend explains how to run a successful club and it was not long before the better organised groups were in a position to mount serious opposition to those who claimed that legal CB would spell the end of civilisation as we knew it. Many organised large rallies, processions and protest marches and I, along with members of my own club, had the pleasure of spending four whole days on a club stand at the Custom Car Show, where we were joined by a visiting US marshall who was only too willing to extol the virtues

Below: The massed ranks of CB clubs which brought about legalisation



of CB radio to all who passed by.

The primary purpose of the stand was to gather signatures on a petition which ultimately exceeded 6,000 names and which was later presented to the then Home Secretary. We were more than a little surprised to find ourselves dealing with requests for membership from literally dozens of people with no previous involvement in the hobby and, by the end of the fourth day, membership had increased by almost a thousand. These heady days have gone now and the whole CB scene has changed dramatically. Never again will we see clubs whose members could be counted in their thousands but the CB club scene still thrives, though in a somewhat different form.

Legalisation introduced a completely new raison d'etre to CB clubs. Gone was the need for protection and for mass publicity and with it, many of the members, for some of whom legalisation came as an anti-climax. Those clubs which survived the transition were left, instead, with a small nucleus of those who were either seriously interested in the hobby, or simply wished to remain in contact with the many good friends they had made through the club. At the same time, a



"There are a wide variety of aspects to a hobby such as CB, and different clubs cater for different tastes"

whole new batch of clubs came into existence, most of which had their roots not in the pre-legalisation scene but among the large numbers of breakers to whom the issuing of a licence had introduced a new interest. Many were eager to join simply because they new little or nothing about what soon proved to be quite a complex subject, others joined simply to make new friends and a few joined because they had either the technical or administrative expertise which was to prove so valuable to their fellow members.

Thinking back to the beginnings of my interest in CB, it seemed so easy then. All we had to do was to form a club. Our only difficulty being that none of us had any previous experience of organising anything more ambitious than a coach trip to Blackpool. So, what would we need? Obviously we must first elect a committee but, once elected, what would it do? Certain requirements were selfevident. Clearly we were going to need a chairman, secretary and treasurer, not to mention a few non-executive committee members to keep these three from each other's throats, and that is just how most early clubs came into being. It was only a very short time before we discovered the wide variety of tasks which the day-to-day running of a club would entail, so, if you are thinking of starting a CB club in your area, perhaps you can profit from a few of our mistakes, as well as a few we did not make.

Priority

The first priority of any club, whatever its basic interest, must be to define its primary function. There are a wide variety of aspects to a hobby such as CB and different clubs cater for different tastes. QSL clubs, for example, are run largely by post and can be well organised by a very small band of enthusiasts. It is equally easy to run a club whose main function is to provide a regular opportunity for breakers to get together, chat and do little else, but, in my opinion, for a club to be really worthy of the title is should offer its members a great many more options, each of which will require some degree of organisation.

If membership is large enough and the funds can stand the initial outlay, many clubs have successfully operated their own 'shop', from which members can purchase a variety of CB gear, as well as a few promotional goodies at discount prices. With proper organisation, this can result in a considerable saving for members and a modest profit for the club funds, but someone must take responsibility for maintaining its stock level and accounting for its funds, Even in cases where, for one reason or another, such an arrangement is impractical, you might be able to negotiate a discount for your members with some of the local dealers. You might even consider offering a special QSL card, available only to vour members. If so, you have just created another job, since the cost of sending cards to your members can be considerably reduced by the simple acquisition of a post office box number. Since there is little purpose in a box which is never opened, someone, the QSL manager, must undertake to distribute its contents among the members on a regular basis.

There is, among a certain sector of the CB community, a voracious thirst for greater knowledge and among the better attended functions at many clubs have been occasional talks by experts on various aspects of radio communications. Throughout some ten years in CB, I have attended a number of these events and have never failed to be interested in their content but they require some setting up. To offer your members this well-worthwhile facility will require the services of an events secretary, who is prepared to give a fair deal of his time to contacting the various organisations and individuals who might be persuaded to share there knowledge and experience and to ensuring that they arrive in the right place at the right time. Not that the duties of an events secretary need stop at that. He might also like to consider setting up the occasional foxhunt or a guided tour of the local brewery and how about the club's float in the annual carnival?

On the technical side, many clubs are fortunate to count among their members at least one person with the skill and apparatus needed to repair some of the more common faults to which rigs are occasionally prone. If he can be persuaded to act as the club's resident rig doctor, your club will be in a position to offer yet another benefit to its members.

Again, depending upon vour membership, you might like to consider trying to do our job. Many a CB club has produced an excellent member's magazine with little more than a reasonably literate editor and a cheap printing or copying machine. Even a single-page newsletter has the advantage of keeping the membership informed about forthcoming activities and events and, with a little ingenuity, a few local traders and those members who have a service to offer might be persuaded to finance such a venture through advertising. Try conning one or two of the members into submitting the occasional article.

Financing a CB club is nowhere near as difficult as it may at first appear. You must, of course, first decide on the level of membership fee to be charged and how often it will become renewable. There is some attraction in the idea of a once-and-for-all 'life' membership fee, which certainly simplifies the administration but, unless new members continue to join at a rate exceeding the club's expenditure, the day must come when the funds will run out and, although it requires a little more work, the collection of an annual subscription at least allows for the recouperation of funds used during the previous year. One possible incentive to members might be to offer a discount on their renewal, based on the number of new members they have introduced during the year.

This brings into focus two more very necessary officials, the membershop secretary, whose duties will include enrolling new members and making sure that renewal notices go out on time and the treasurer, who will have perhaps the greatest responsibility of all. Not only should a treasurer have a good head for figures and an ability to produce them at the drop of a hat, he must also be willing to give up his time to ensuring that the club's financial affairs are in order at all times. By far the majority of treasurers are honest, trustworthy folk but a few clubs have had the unfortunate experience of having elected one who has subsequently converted their funds into his own personal benevolent fund and it is not at all unreasonable to require more than just a single signature on club cheques, not only to prevent fraud but as a means of ensuring that honest expenditure is wise expenditure.

On the subject of money, it must also be said that a very large number of CB clubs have raised some very impressive amounts for their favourite charities and I recently heard of the perfect way to show the world at large that all the money ended up where it was intended to go. One enterprising CB group which has been responsible for a number of fund-raising events invited a member of the charity in question, together with their local vicar, to act as members of a small subcommittee, responsible for the smooth running of their charity fund. Not only is everything open and above board but demonstrably so.

Whilst looking at the overall club scene we should not forget that there are still a few clubs whose main aim is to try to widen the specifications under which we are obliged to operate. After more than four years of legal CB there is still room for considerable improvement in the service and many of the suggestions already adopted by the DTI have come originally from user groups. I think even the hardiest must now be prepared to admit the facts that a legal SSB service is even less likely now than it perhaps appeared a few years ago, but there is still some worthwhile campaigning to be done and this is an area in which all clubs have a part to play.

Specialist

Then, of course, there are that small band of specialist clubs dedicated to monitoring for emergency traffic. Running such an organisation requires exceptional organising skills if they are to prove effective but the last thing we need in this area is a proliferation of separate groups, each doing its own thing without regard to or for any other and if your interests lie in this direction you would do well to consider joining one of the already well-established groups. Although a few seem to have gone overboard, sporting paramilitary style uniforms and acting for all the world like Fred Karno's Army, the genuine monitoring organisations have never lost sight of the fact that they are there primarily to pass on calls for help and they deserve everyone's support.

To return to our main topic, that of organising a CB club. For things to run smoothly you will need to hold regular committee meetings and these can, on occasion, become unruly affairs when strong differences of opinion arise. For this reason, it is essential to elect as chairman someone whose personality is strong enough to maintain the necessary equilibrium throughout the most heated debate and whose sense of humour is sufficient to cool everyone's temper. A good secretary is also essential at all such meetings. Someone should make an accurate record of all decisions and recommendations and ensure that they are circulated among his colleagues. Be prepared to accept the fact that you will not always agree on every issue and avoid the trap of becoming bogged down in endless discussion on minor topics. One ploy which many clubs have adopted as a means of avoiding embarrassment is to elect a committee consisting of an odd number of members, thereby avoiding the likelihood of tied voting, other than when one member is absent, in which case the chairman usually has the casting vote.

Being involved in the running of a CB club has its pitfalls but it can be very rewarding, though certainly not in financial terms. Unless the definition of who is entitled to claim out of pocket expenses, such as the cost of telephone calls and postage and the circumstances in which they may be claimed, are laid down from the start it is very easy to find yourself the poorer. Neither can you expect a great deal of thanks for your efforts. As I said before, much of the work goes on behind the scenes and very few people realise just how time consuming it can be. Add to that the fact that there is always someone who disagrees with the way you are running things and it can seem like a pretty thankless task. There are hundreds of people up and down the country who reckon they could do the job better and, who knows? Maybe they are right. Despite all the pitfalls, helping to organise a CB club can be great fun, especially when you see how it can be of benefit to the entire local CB community. Why not give it a try?



Most clubs regularly arrange visits to other clubs



Brian Wright takes a look at three new accessories from an all-British company

Repro Electronic System's new mike switching unit



ith many modern items such as cars, audio systems and computers, it would be prohibitively expensive and compli-

cated to include all of the possible extra facilities and variations in the basic unit. The customer would have to pay for many luxuries that he or she did not require and the design would be constantly changing as technology improved. The obvious answer, of course, is to produce a model with all of the essential items and also, perhaps, a delux model with a few extras included and then provide the many other variations as add-on accessories.

This has the advantage of allowing the customer to add facilities in order of personal preference and as they can be afforded. Another advantage is that the very latest design of an accessory can be added to the basic unit that may have been purchased several years previously. Nowhere, it seems, is the choice of accessories more abundant and varied than in the world of CB radio, and this month we are featuring three useful accessories from a new British company called Repro Electronic Systems Ltd.

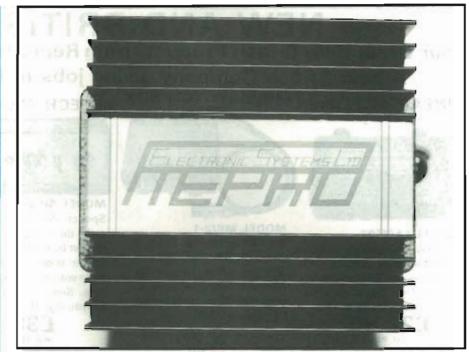
The first item is a neat little mike switching unit to enable the user to switch from one mike to another without the need to disconnect the mike plug. This may not sound a very useful item at first, but I have lost count of the number of times that I have heard a breaker say "Hold on a moment while I plug in the other mike". This is then followed by the usual delay while the breaker wrestles with the tangled leads and plugs in the other mike, only to have to repeat the process when he decides to change back to the original. Well now this can all be done with the flick of a switch. Another use could be for the breaker who uses a harsh-sounding mike for DXing and a softer mike for local copies.

The mike switching unit measures 90mm wide x 30mm high x 70mm deep and has two mike sockets (4-pin) and a small switch on the front panel. At the rear is a 500mm long cable with a 4-pin plug fitted for connection to the rig mike socket. The unit has two sticky pads on the base for fixing, if required, and is supplied wired for Cybernet chassis (yellow disc on rear) or for Uniden chassis (blue disc). The switching unit is of smart appearance, is well-make and is housed in a black plastic box. It retails at £9.75.

Another very useful piece of equipment produced by Repro Electronic Systems is the SP 1001 Speech Processor. A good speech processor such as the SP 1001 is a most useful device to have permanently connected to a rig. Once set up correctly, it can really improve the readability of your modulation on difficult long-distance copies. Processors can be a little overpowering and uncomfortable to the listener though on strong local copies and are best switched out under these conditions. The SP 1001 has the facility to be switched in and out and is therefore very convenient to use.

This smart and well-made unit is housed in a metal case, sprayed silver hammer finish, with a light blue front panel with white markings. The case measures 150mm wide x 50mm high x 80mm deep. On the front panel (from left to right) is a 4-pin mike socket, the 'on' or 'bypass' switch, a knob to set the limiting, an LED to indicate the amount of limiting, the mike gain knob and finally the power on/off switch with an indicator LED above. At the rear are the power lead and output lead with a plug fitted for connection to the rig mike socket. As with the mike switching unit, the SP 1001 is supplied wired for either the Cybernet or Uniden chassis and is indicated by the yellow or blue disc on the rear face. The SP 1001 is powered from the normal 12 volt supply via the power lead at the rear and the circuit is fitted with reverse polarity protection to prevent damage if accidentally incorrectly connected.

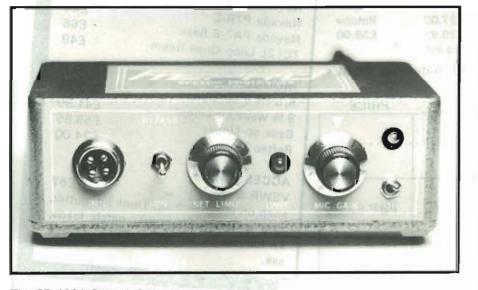
Normally, speech processors require a great deal of patience in setting up and, no doubt, the SP 1001 would benefit from very careful adjustment for optimum working, but we found this unit very simple to set for a



Repro's Regulated Voltage Dropper

quite impressive increase in modulation strength. On our sample, we simply set the mike gain as instructed and then set the limit control until the limit indicator flashed reasonably bright on the signal peaks. Later tests proved that we had reached almost the best_setting at the first attempt. Both of the knobs have a smart aluminium skirt (numbered 1-10) so that if a note is made of the correct setting, they can easily be reset if accidentally moved. A brief look inside revealed a neatlyassembled fibreglass PCB and tidy wiring. The Repro SP 1001 Speech Processor is good value at £34.50 and well worth considering if your modulation is weak or if you go for those distant copies.

The third accessory from the Repro Electronic Systems Ltd range will be useful to lorry drivers, boat owners and other groups of people who find themselves confronted with a 24 volt DC power source and 12 volt equipment.



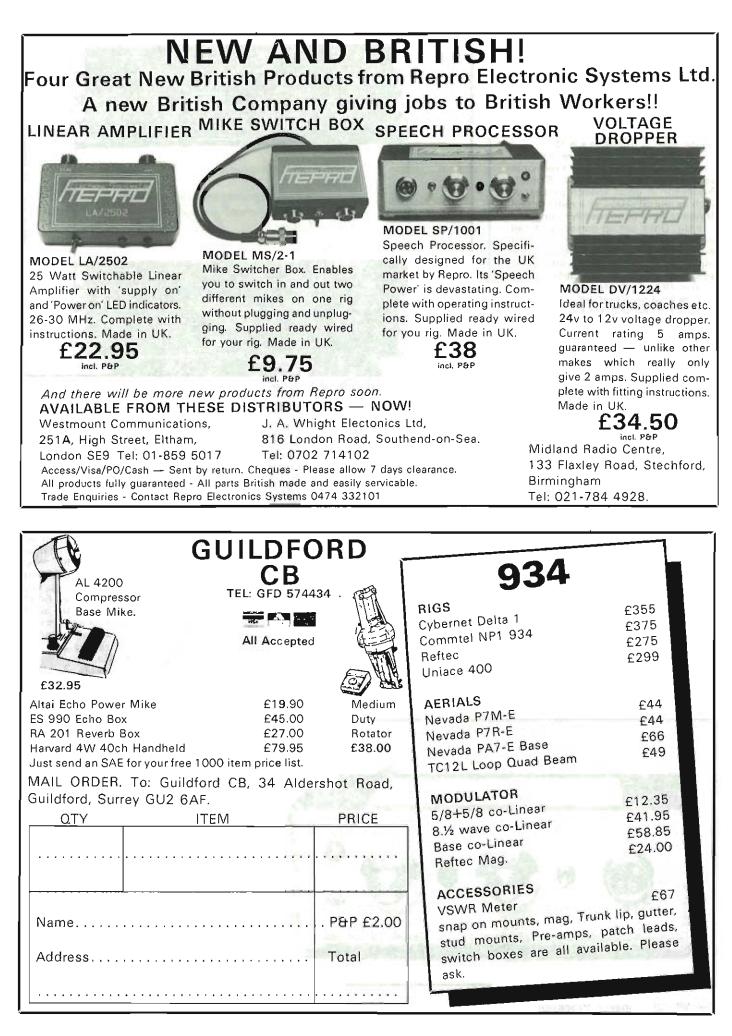
The SP 1001 Speech Processor

If you belong to one of these groups of people, then the Repro 24v to 12v Regulated Voltage Dropper could solve all of your problems. This unit is suitable for powering CB rigs, car radios, radio/ cassette players, 12v televisions etc, providing the total load does not exceed 5 amps, which should be more than enough for the above items, unless the CB rig has an excessively high output power or has a burner connected.

The voltage dropper is very robust and well-made and consists of a largefinned heatsink fixed to a small diecast box which, in turn, is fitted to a large thick metal plate for mounting. The box is sprayed silver hammer finish and the plate and heatsink are black anodized. The whole assembly is very solid and acts as a heatsink to ensure good cooling — always a problem with this type of device.

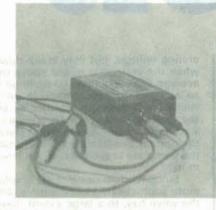
Again, a look inside revealed professional standards of construction on a fibreglass PCB. The output is regulated at around 13.5 volts which is roughly the voltage normally encountered in a car with a fully-charged battery and stabilization was extremely good on our sample. Under a load of 2 amps (more than enough for the average rig), the fluctuation or drop was barely detectable and was, in fact better than our laboratory power supply under the same load - quite impressive. The overall dimensions are roughly 110mm x 55mm x 100mm. The price of £32 for the Repro 24v to 12v Regulated Voltage Dropper may seem a little high for a seemingly simple device, but a fair amount of metalwork and circuitry has to be involved if good regulation and reliable operation are to be achieved at current levels of up to 5 amps. We would, therefore, consider this to be quite good value for this particular unit.

All of these accessories are Britishmade by Repro Electronics Systems Ltd, 251a High Street, Eltham, London E9.



MIDLAND RADIO CENTRE THE LARGEST STOCKIST OF CB RADIO EQUIPMENT IN THE MIDLANDS

Model TT/9003 Automatic In Circuit Transistor Tester.



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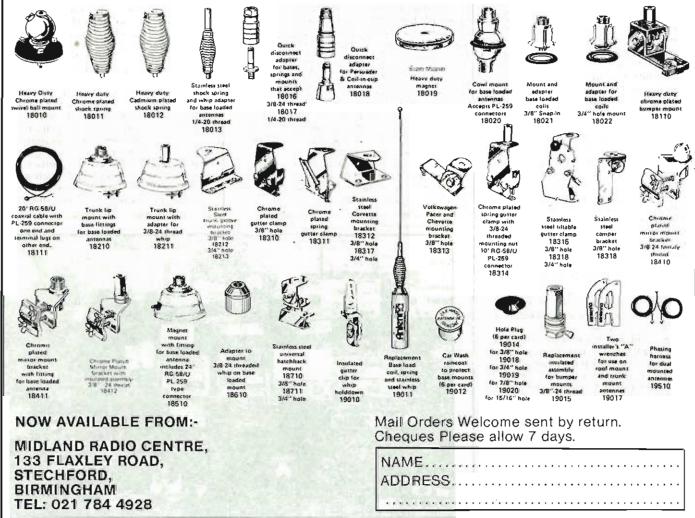
The Repro Automatic Transistor Tester is an invaluable aid to the technician, and hobbyist alike. The TT/9003 is unique in that, without the faulty circuit board being powered up, both PNP and NPN transistors can be tested whilst they are still in circuit, without the use of any other ancillary equipment. Until now it has been necessary to remove the component for testing at the work bench, a time consuming and repetitive chore. Comprising a compact unit measuring only 12 x 7 x 3cms and operated by a standard 9 volt battery, the TT/9003 can be used by anyone with an elementary knowledge of electronics. £38.85



Model LA/2502 Linear Amplifier.

A 25 watt switchable Linear Amplifier with 'supply on' and 'Power on' LED indicators. 26-30MHz. Complete with instructions. Made in UK. £22.95

(Our list of Antennae and Accessories is vast. Listed below is just a few of the many lines kept in stock. If we have not got it in stock we will get it for you.)



of test equipment, although to own an operate any of them requires some skill and knowledge of the circuit in question. A lot of the equipment available, and discussed here, is both inexpensive and simple to operate, whilst other items are far outside the reach of the average prober's pocket. It is of course dangerous to attempt to tamper with any electrical apparatus, irrespective of the voltages present. It is always useful to have a full circuit diagram, or at least a block diagram, before undertaking any maintenance work, to avoid further damage to the already troubled equipment.

here are many useful pieces

Perhaps the most useful piece of equipment to have on the workbench, certainly in terms of functions versus pounds, is a multi-meter. Manufactured in various forms, from the miniature. pocket type, to the large Avo majors, and including some quite superior digital models, displaying an accurate figure in an LED or LCD form, with protection circuits including "selfranging" to prevent damage caused to some other models.

Versatile machines they are - and hard to live without. More than one volt-ohm milliammeter can normally be found on the test bench. Vacuum-tube voltmeters serve the same functions but because the vacuum types embody electronic circuits, these present a higher impedance to the circuit being measured. High impedance is important if voltages being measured are not to be affected by the presence of the test instrument while the measurements are being taken. These vacuumtube meters are rapidly being replaced by the transistorised digital meters, which do have several advantages over the older types.

Nevertheless, these digital meters do not show rapid changes in voltages, which would show up on a more conventional needle-type meter. Yet, inexpensive types of these digital meters tend to be no more accurate than some very reliable analog ones; and their response time is very slow. Truly ideal would be a meter which employs both the digital readout and needle meter movements. Perhaps anyone contemplating using such a device for CB troubleshooting should have a convenient portable type for use in the field as well as a more sophisticated model for bench work. Trevor Butler looks at radio test equipment the tools of the rig doctor's trade

EST METERS

One danger of using multi-meters in strong RF fields, is that the pointer can deflect owing to the effect of the RF field upon the circuit even if the meter is not directly connected to the transmitter. It is useful, before taking such measurements, to connect one test lead to the other and to establish an RF field, and to note whether the pointer moves from its position.

An important item to have on the workbench, although its use out in the field will be limited, is a good, stabilised, power supply. Preferably one with current and voltage limiting and incorporating some form of metering. A variable form of power supply is very useful when troubleshooting, so that measurements can be made with different working voltages. A higher voltage can be used when trying to trace an elusive component problem. It may behave properly, or erratically, when supplied with the normal operating voltage, but may break down when the voltage is raised above the average. Care should be taken, though, so as not to cause damage to other vulnerable components when increasing the working voltage. Often, supplying a momentary surge, somewhat above the normal, is sufficient to precipitate the complete breakdown of the intermittent circuitry.

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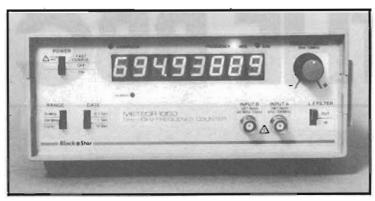
Since modern day circuits employ more sophisticated components, and the valve has, to a large extent, been replaced by the transistor, any modern workbench should have access to a transistor tester. Several designs have been published in various constructional magazines over the years. More expensive types are available on the market under many trade names. They are useful because, although many components can be tested-out using the multimeter, absolute quality checks of solid-state devices can only be made using a transistor tester, or better still, a curve tracer.

Because transistors are usually soldered into printed circuit boards. it is inconvenient to remove the devices from the board to determine if they are good, and since the fact that any excess heat applied during de-soldering and re-soldering may damage the component beyond recognition, to use an in-circuit tester is much safer. Some ICs are very expensive, while others very hard to find. The in-circuit





CITIZENS' BAND MARCH 1986



testers normally have flying leads, to be connected to the component, rather than a slot, into which the device, once removed from the board, should be placed. Operation is simple, with selection switches to tell the measuring unit the type of device and also to record the polarity.

Apart from a multimeter, the next most singularly useful item is perhaps an oscilloscope — for it can be used to determine a number of factors and used in differing circumstances, yet in essence only voltage is measured. While there are many instruments an engineer can learn to live without, the oscilloscope doesn't fall into this category. With correct usage it can, perhaps, be regarded, as the most valuable instrument in RF servicing.

At its heart is a cathode ray tube, with plates positioned to deflect the electrons into either horizontal or vertical directions, or in both directions simultaneously. To get substantial amounts of deflection when minute voltages are applied to the inputs, vertical and horizontal amplifiers are built into the oscilloscope's circuitry.

The scope can be used to ascertain the frequency of a signal using what is called a Lissajous pattern. Simply apply the signal at the unknown frequency to the horizontal input and the signal from a calibrated frequency generator to the vertical. Adjust the controls until a circle, straight line or an ellipse is on the screen. The frequency produced at the generator is then equal to the one in question.

Modulation percentage is another variable which can be measured by an oscilloscope, although to do this the scope must be able to rerproduce RF frequencies correctly. Some of the inexpensive models, rated up to 35MHz, will therefore be adequate to cover the 27MHz CB band. Most oscilloscopes do not have amplifiers with sufficient bandwidths to display the 27MHz RF of CB band, yet the modulated display is still possible with the use of an adaptor connected directly to the deflection plates of the CRT.

Any scope can be regarded as a voltmeter; should a sinusoidal signal be applied to the vertical input while a sawtooth of the proper frequency is at the horizontal, the relative voltage at each instance in the cycle are displayed. Voltage from the crest to the peak of the sine wave is the peak-topeak voltage.

It has already become clear that some form of signal generator is required to service equipment. Be it an A frequency counter can be invaluable to a rig doctor

audio type for use with hi-fi and audio equipment or an RF generator to simulate the signals encountered when dealing with items of radio equipment.

Crystal oscillators in transmitters are frequently at fault when the receiver or transmitter section does not function. Proper performance may be restored by injecting a signal from an RF generator into the affected circuit, possibly at the mixer stage, as a substitute for the signal from the oscillator. Any improvement in reception would then indicate that there is a fault, the crystal itself often proving defective. A more important function of a signal source is to supply RF to align the transmitter and receiver stages.

Signals

Audio signals are useful when checking squelch circuits and even microphone stages and audio amplifier sections. Many RF types of generators will also provide an adequate source of AF, whilst with others, the additional use of an AF generator will be required. Although useful to have an audio generator, its applications to CB servicing are limited, and this tends to be one area where a home-construction project can be adopted. Many easy-toconstruct ideas for AF generators have appeared in the specialist press.

In tandem with signal generators come frequency counters — indeed each can be used to check the other. These prove the best method of checking a frequency, and the digital versions are preferred. Several models incorporate a feature will allow for some overflow. This will expand what appears to be a limit in the readout, to allow for more significant digits by supressing the first few to extend the overall readout. This may be important when regulations stipulating the accuracy of the frequency standard are such that other counters would be inadequate.

When considering generators and counters it is sometimes assumed that precision is the order of the day, although there will be circumstances where a recording of just order of magnitude will suffice in cases of some troubleshooting. In such cases, a dip meter may be the answer, certainly less expensive, and again available as a home construction project. A dip meter embodies a resonant circuit, tunable over a wide range, RF-wise, with one element of the circuit, the inductor, protruding from the case. RF fields are then absorbed by this coil, which may be changed to adjust the resonant frequency of the circuit. Such frequencies may be read on the frontpanel dial — the pointer will deflect and as deflection is proportional to the RF voltage, there is, available in the dip meter an RF voltmeter as an internal part.

The prime function is to determine the resonant frequency of a circuit, the dip is most pronounced when the frequency generated by the instrument is equal to the frequency under test. When not in an oscillating mode the coil can be used to absorb energy from a circuit emitting RF. Thus, the instrument is useful for locating a defective resonant circuit or an inoperatove stage in a transceiver. These dip meters can also be used to check the resonant, and therefore operating, frequency of an antenna. Used properly, a wavemeter will pay for itself in time saved.

Another very useful item, and one which can be found on many a secondhand shelf, is an RF wattmeter. The basic function of the transmitter stage is, after all, to generate RF power for radiation into the ether, and ultimately to the receiving station. Several instruments are available to measure RF power, yet the Bird Throughline has for many years been adopted, and accepted, as the standard by the service and RF design industry. When used with its various interchangeable plugin elements on the front panel, the device is capable of indicating RF signals up to a power of 5kW over a frequency range of some 2 to 1000MHz and even beyond. For CB applications, element 10A is ideal, indicating up to 10 watts output with a five per cent accuracy on frequencies in the range 25 to 60MHz. The meter is intended to be coupled between transmitter and antenna, and when used on the workbench, some form of dummy load must be plugged in to the meter in place of the aerial.

One piece of test gear almost everyone in the field of servicing would like to own, yet perhaps few can gain access to, and even less can afford, is an RF spectrum analyser. Many of the "big" names in the electronic test equipment manufacture such equipment. The main aim is to analyse a particular part of the RF spectrum by routing a signal into the input which, in turn, then displays onto the screen all the transmissions found. It is usual to see the main carrier frequency, very strong, surrounded by the other spurious, weaker signals. It is possible to determine their frequencies together with the strength, and thus whether the transmitter is within specification.

Another useful application is to check the accuracy of the Intermediate Frequencies of the receiver stage by probing the particular part of the circuit in question. Specification is an important consideration when adjusting or aligning equipment, There are strict guidelines in force under the MPT regulations for CB radio and it is essential in order to comply with the licence conditions, to ensure that they are met. CBATTHEBBCV Children In Need Appeal raised lots of money for the underprivileged. Keith Townsend checks out how CB helped to boost

the donations

uaranteed from the outset to be a runaway success, the 1985 version of the BBC's Children in Need Appeal surpassed the expecta-

tions of its organisers yet again. Even before transmission ended, the fund had reached the staggering and unprecedented total of £2,431,085 in pledges, with over two million pounds having reached the bank at the time of writing and still the money is coming in. BBC Executive Producer, Mark Beechwood, told me: "Ever since the first Children in Need Appeal was broadcast in 1980, the final total has doubled the amount pledged during transmission and if this trend continues we can expect to amass something in the order of £5 million by the time the Appeal closes."

Invariably a very special event, the 1985 pre-Christmas extravaganza, hosted, as ever, by the indomitable Terry Wogan and supported by just about everyone who is anyone in the world of sport and entertainment, received a significant boost as a result of the efforts of four young members of a Warwickshire CB club, the Godiva DX Group, who spent a chilly 24 hours parked on the forecourt of Birmingham's Pebble Mill TV studios in a successful attempt to raise more than a thousand pounds for this most deserving of causes.

With a lot of help from their friends, this intrepid quartet arrived just before midnight on Thursday, November 24th, to begin a marathon modulation throughout what was to prove a wet and cold Friday, during the course of which they were to contact no less than 400 stations over an incredibly wide area. This, despite the fact that the geography of their surroundings was far from ideal for high frequency transmission. A bit of support from local breakers meant that they were able to contact stations as far away as Southampton, with stations within a 30 mile radius of Birmingham queuing up to work them.

Organiser Tim Beaumont took turns on the mike with Ian Sweatman, ably



Snooker star Steve Davis visiting the Godiva DX Group's station

assisted by Richard Spencer and the lovely Dawn Rice, who did a great job in logging every single contact. Not an easy feat when stations are piling up. Contacts were inevitably brief, being, for the most part, confined to information about the event and the way in which breakers could support it by sending their donations to a Coventry Box Number dedicated to making each and every one of them just that bit poorer in a worthy cause.

I arrived at Pebble Mill shortly before lunchtime on Friday, just in

time for Pebble Mill at One, to discover a scene of organised confusion. For a start, the CB station was not where I had been told J would find it and the place had just been plunged into uproar by the arrival of a helicopter carrying Virgin Records' boss, Richard Branson and chart-topper Feargal Sharkey, who were in the midst of a round-Britain dash, raising funds for the Appeal. I eventually found Tim and his pals very neatly ensconced in just about the most luxurious Land Rover I have ever seen. The lack of the right vehicle for setting up the event had originally threatened to become a major problem. It was intended that CB would feature on your screens at various times throughout the day and trying to shove a TV camera into the back of a mini sounded a bit impractical. Into the breach stepped Land Rover Ltd, who not only offered the loan of the vehicle but also delivered and collected it at the appropriate times. Tim told me: "We are really grateful to the guys at Land Rover. Without their help I doubt if we could have put the station on at all."

Land Rover were by no means the only organisation to lend valuable support to their effort. Toad's CB 20, of Kenilworth, also received a huge vote of thanks from Tim and friends, for the loan of an Audioline base station Thunderpole Mk III antenna, and together with an assortment of mikes, all of which performed faultlessly, despite the rigours of being in nonstop use throughout the entire Children in Need spectacular. Goldfinger CB, way up in Dunfermline, also rated a very special vote of thanks for donating a brand new rig, to be auctioned in aid of the appeal and the ladies of the BBC staff maintained a fairly steady stream of tea and coffee to keep out the cold.

Tim told me: "What has impressed me most has been the fantastic cooperation we have received from Birmingham's own breakers. We have heard no more than a couple of wallies and they have soon been chased off by the others. We are, to some extent, stuck in the lee of the studios and some copies have been very faint but a local breaker on a higher site calling himself Grasshopper, has done a fantastic job of relaying information and everyone we have contacted has pledged money to the Appeal. We have also been very well supported by a variety of CB clubs, with donations from the World Link DX Club, Viking Radio QSL Group, Tie Fighters, QSL Club, South Staffs Breakers, Northfield Panthers and many others. It really is fantastic.

Definite

During the course of the day the station was visited by a number of stars and it was at just about this point that we were joined by snooker ace, Steve Davis, who sat in for a few minutes and appeared particularly impressed by the efficiency with which the young team were gathering donations. Others who put in short appearances at the Land Rover, which, by now, was proving quite an attraction, included former England star Emlyn Hughes and the BBC's own Stu Francis. It was rapidly becoming an autograph hunter's paradise and Dawn, in particular, was not slow to seize her opportunities.

Every now and again throughout the rest of the day there were to be moments of total panic, as cameras and mikes were thrust unceremoniously into the mobile shack and Tim Beaumont's first TV appearance "What has impressed me most has been the fantastic co-operation we have received from Birmingham's own breakers"

did little to improve his nerves. By the end of the day, though, he had become a seasoned broadcaster. It is in the nature of this kind of programme that individual items are kept short but I was inclined to wonder how much the cameraman's speedy entries and exits owed to programme timing and how much to the difference in temperature between studio and forecourt. By the final appearance, which came just after midnight, when the entire team had spent nearly 25 hours on air, Tim and the rest of the gang were showing signs of their ordeal. It had been all but impossible to keep the shack warm, despite the fact that BBC technicians had laid on mains power and provided an electric space heater, simply because the outside temperature was not much above freezing and the constant comings and goings ensured that the Land Rover's doors were open almost as often as they were shut. A few days later. Tim told me: "By the end, I was getting to the point where I could not concentrate on the QSOs. We were all absolutely shattered. It was great fun, though."

As anyone who has helped to organise long-term events in the past will know, it is no easy feat to pull together all of the material and other services needed to make it successful, even when conditions are not dictated by the needs of television producers. For this, like other such events, special QSL cards had to be printed and every station which contacted the Children in Need Appeal will receive one in due

"Although this was our first attempt at a television event and we really did not know what to expect, we are all delighted with the result" course. As well as the cards, the group had special sponsorship forms prepared and it is hoped that these will considerably increase the total contribution by the time the Appeal closes. Setting up in close proximity to the BBC, with all its technical equipment and numerous radio links could have been a major problem but a little assistance from BBC technicians ensured that the CB station was able to operate without any interference, either way, under difficult conditions.

I asked the four whether they felt their efforts to have been worthwhile: 'Although this was our first attempt at a televised event and we really did not know what to expect, we are all delighted with the result. To date, the special bank account which we opened for the event contains something in the region of £1,300 and we are quietly confident that this is not the final figure. Although the BBC likes to do something different with each Children in Need Appeal, we hope very much to be allowed to come back again next year and to try for an even bigger total. We have already started planning, so that, if we are here, we can attract more sponsorship and we are looking forward to bettering what we consider to have been a huge success. Everything hinged on the goodwill of the breakers. Not only those we worked but also those who, having worked us, spread the word among their friends and those who left us a clear channel throughout the event, despite the degree of channel crowding in a large city like Birmingham. We are grateful to them all."

Of the appeal, itself, BBC Midlands producer, David Nelson, told me: "We were truly amazed at the amount of cash which was brought to the studios during transmission. Our staff had a very busy time counting more than £20,000 dropped in on the day."

Impressed

Asked about next year, he said that it was far to early to make definite plans but that he had been delighted with the response from CB users everywhere and would seriously consider including CB in future events.

The final word on this fantastic effort must go to Mark Beechwood, the man with the unenviable task of co-ordinating the services of the various regional TV studios, as well as local and national radio stations, to ensure the success of the mammoth production, who told me: "We have never needed to appoach anyone and ask them to appear on Children in Need. Public response is invariably overwhelming and the Appeal has grown to incredible proportions since 1980. It is the willingness of organisations like the Godiva DX Group to give up their time and energy that have made each year's event more successful than the last and I would like to thank not only the CB group but everyone who helped to make this the best event vet".

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ANTENNA CHECKLIST

The Citizens' Band Ante

Name Lists antennas by name and model number and gives you, where possible, the name and address of the manufacturer or distributor.

Construction

The majority of home base antennas are made of aluminium and mobile antennas from stainless steel, but fibre glass can be

The D.T.I. specs for CB antennas are now more liberal than those originally in force, with the base loading restriction removed to permit any type of loading as long as the antenna is 1.65m in length (or less) and no more than 55mm in diameter. This revised checklist now includes the many new antennas released after this change of heart.

REFERENCE

ntennas relea	sed after this change of hea	art.	CONSTRUC	HE	MAX POW	1	LOADING	1 2	
NAME	ADDRESSES	MODEL	CON	LENGTH	MAX	TYPE	LOA	MOUNT	Peror
AERIAL SUPPLIES	Aerial Supplies (Redditch) Ltd. 6 Widney House, Bromsgrove Road, Redditch, Worcs, (0527 62620/60107)	Silver Stat Silver Arrow Javelin Javelin Dipole	AL AL AL AL	1.6 1.5 1.84 1.54	100 500 500 500	8 8 8 8	B B C C	Pola Pole Polo Pole	DwwC
ALLGON	Communications, 10 North Street, Strood, Kent.	Various 466	FG SS AL SS	Various 1.4	Various	B M Marine	Ť C B C/B	Various Mast/Cabin	A-I inc
ARMSTRONG	Stateside Trading Ltd. Audiey Avenue, Newport. Shropshire	SAM 10 SAM 20 TAK 10 TAK 20 MAG 10 MAG 20 BDY 20 PEC 20	55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55	1.06 1,05 1.05 1.06 1.05 1.05 1.06 1.06	1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 100	M M M M M M M	8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	Surface Spring Surface Boot lip Mag. Spring Mag. Side Side Side, Fold over & Quick Disconnect	FFFGGGGG
ARCHER	Tandy Corp. Tameway Tower. Bridge Street, Walsall, West Mids.	21-904	S \$	0.5	60	м	в	%" thread	D
BANDIT	Telecomms. 189 London Road. North End. Portsmouth	B10 B16 B16 B20 B30 B30 B40 B40 B40 B60 B60	\$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$	1.42 0.61 1.22 1.42 1.42 1.42 1.42 1.42 1.42 1.4		M M M M M M M M M M M M	8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	Mag. Mag. Mag. Mirror Drill Thru Drill Thru Various Various Various Various Various	0FFFFFF00000
BREMI UK LTD.	Unit 6, Innage Park, Holly Lane Industrial Estate, Atherstone, Warks	827S C27S H827S	SS SS AL	1.62 1.38 1.55	1000 1000 1000	M M B	B C T	%" thread %" thread Pole	CCE
CB SERVICES	97 Crab Lane, Harrogate, North Yorks.	Bullwhip Knuckleduster	SS AL	1.5 1.6		M B	8 8	Various	CD
COMMTEL	Near Third Drove, Fengate, Peterborough	Rocket Shutlle Sterlight Shutlle Star Signal seercher Messonger Signal keoper	SS FG SS AL SS SS	1.5 1.6 1.5 1.5 1.5 1.5 1.5		M M B B B B B	B B B C W B B B B B	thread thread thread Clamp Pole Clemp Tripod	EF
FREEMAN AND PARDOE	Tything Road, Arden Forest Ind. Est. Alcester. Werks	Inveder Thunderpole II Thunderpole III	AL AL A1	1.5 1.5 1.65	250 500 500	8 8 8	B B C	Pole Pole Pole	E P F
GAMMA AERIAL PRODUCTS	Lye. Wast Midlands. (0384 691132/891474)	Skybreaker Avenger Lofty Skybreaker II Avenger II Lofty II Firefly	AL AL AL AL AL AL SS	1.5 1.5 1.6 1.65 1.65 1.65 1.66		8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	BBBCCCC	Pole Brecket Pole Bracket %" thread	DCDmmm

CTION

REFERENCE

a Checklist will give you the following information:

used in some models. The list tells you what material the antenna is manufactured from.

Length

The legal maximum length of an antenna is 1.65m, base or mobile.

Maximum Power

This is intended as a guide

only, as the law only permits an effective radiated power of two watts. The power rating will give some indication of sturdiness. Figure refers to watts.

Type Indicates whether a mobile or base antenna. Loading

Indicates the type of

electrical loading of the antenna; top, centre, bottom or continuously wound.

Mount

This gives some idea of the mount or type of mount appropriate for the antenna concerned. Home base antennas are usually pole mounted, but can be house gutter mounted. Mobile antennas are either mag. mounted by a strong magnet, attached to the car gutter or boot lid edge whilst others are physically attached in the same way as a car radio antenna. Mobile antennas with $\frac{3}{8}$ " thread usually will fit a range of mounts.

KEY Construction SS — Stainless Steel AL — Aluminium FG — Fibreglass Type B — Base M — Mobile	T — Top C - C — Centre D - B Base E - CW — Continuously wound F - Price Bands G	- [5-[9.99 - [10-[14.99 - [15-[19.99 - [20-[24.99 - [25-[29.99 - [30-[39.99 - [40 plus.	CONSTRUCTION	H	MAX POWER		LOADING	NF	RANGE
NAME	ADDRESSES	MODEL	CON	LENGTH	MAX	TYPE	LOA	MOUNT	PRICE
HAM	Cognat & Co, Whitegate, 12 Farden, Briterley, Ludiow, Salop	Big Mac Thunderbird Hipower Quatro Saxy	AL AL AL AL	9.9m 8.5 6.5 5.0 7.5	2k 2k 2k 2k 2k	B B B B B	B B B B	Various Various Various Various Various	HOGOG
HOT ROD	Stateside Trading Ltd. Audley Avenue, Newport,	FMUK	SS	1.27	A FAI	м	B	%" Thread	В
LES WALLEN MANF.	Pembroke Works, Ramsgate Road, Sandwich,	Modulator LC M.D.X. Long M.D.X Short Mini M.D.X. Mini 27 T-Bolt Saturn Exper	SS SS SS SS AL	1.66 2.00 1.66 1.10 1.40 0.83 1.00 1.00	1000 1000 1000 100 500 200 500 1000	Μ Μ Μ Μ Μ Μ Μ Μ Μ Μ Μ Μ Μ Μ Μ Μ Μ Μ Μ	BBBBBBBCC	%" Thread %" Thread %" Thread %" Thread %" Thread %" Thread %" Thread Pole∕wall Pole∕wall	CCCBBBOF
MARKSMAN	Marksman Products. PO Box 40. Milton Keynes MK6 2UT (0908 668916)	Mister Stick	\$\$	1.19 1.63	Above legal limit	м	C	% "UNF	D
R.W. BAOLAND LTD.	Rostan Trading Estate, Providence Street, Lye, Stourbridge, West Midlands (Lye 3160/5051)	Rebel 1 Rebol II Rebel Raider Rebel Bullet Red Devil	55 55 55 55	1.5 1.5 1.6 0.61 1.52	500 500 500 50 50 500	22222	BBCBCW	Throad Thread Thread % Thread % Thread % Thread	12
REVCO	Telecomms. 189 London Road, North End. Portsmouth.	Revco	55	1.0	100	м	B	Various	В
\$MC	Rumbridga Street, Totton Street, Hants	Oscar CBA 11GP Oscar 11V11S11 Oscar 11CM Oscar 11CE Oscar 11NE Oscar 11SE Oscar 11ZE	*****	1.5 1.5 1.2 1.2 1.5 1.5 1.5		882338		Mag. Foldovêr Base Pull up Foldover Base	FFDCCCB
TAGRA	CB Radio Centre, 337 Kenton Road, Middleaux.	т40 .	SS	1.4	500	м	8	Various	E
THORO'BRED	Pixtron UK Ltd. 10 Victoria Street, Newark, Notta. (0636 74688 Telex: 377627)	Z 27 Z Mag 251	\$5 \$5 \$5	1.52 1.52 1.60	1700 1700 100	M M M	B B B	%" Thread 3" Dia Magnet 5" Dia Magnet	BCC
VALOR	W.T.A. Electronics Ltd. 111 Cromer Road, Hollesdon, Norwich (0603 47694)	Warrior 550 Haif Bread 520 Haif Bread 510 Haif Bread 510 Dial-a-Match 640 Dial-a-Match 630 Rubber Duck 300 Pro Am PLB 27 Road Hog 336 Road Hog 336 Road Hog 336 Road Hog 337 Road Hog 836 Road Hog 836 Black Magic 333 ¹ / ₂ Black Magic 333 ¹ / ₂ Black Magic 333 ¹ / ₂ Black Magic 333 ¹ / ₂	55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55	$\begin{array}{c} 1.52\\ 1.52\\ 1.2\\ 0.9\\ 1.2\\ 0.6\\ 0.36\\ 1.62\\ 1.62\\ 1.62\\ 1.62\\ 1.62\\ 1.62\\ 1.62\\ 1.62\\ 1.62\\ 1.62\\ 1.62\\ 1.2\\ 0.76\\$	1500 1500 1500 1500 1000 25 25 200 1000 10	222222222222222222222222222222222222222	C B B B B B B C B T T T T T T T T T T T	3/4" Thread 7/4" Thread 7/4" Thread 7/4" Thread 3" Thread	000000000000000000000000000000000000000
WTA	W.T.A. Electronics Ltd. 111 Cromer Road, Hellesdon, Norwich. (3603 47694)	Wot Pole 1 Wot Pole II Wot Stick 1 Wot Stick II	AL SS SS	1.6 1.6 1.6 1.5	1000 1000 1000 1000	88X	6 8 8 8	Pole Pole Threed Thread	B C A B
VAN ORDT	Knight Communications, Unit 19 Brittania Estate, Leagrave Road.	Audio King	55	1.5	2000	M	13	∛ ₈ " Thread	G

FMRIG CHECKLIST

CB 27/81		RETAU	OF A	SUPPLY VOLTAGE	Squero	NB SWITCH	ANIL SWIT	MIKE GAL	RF GAIN	TONE CO.	S'AF AL	S/AF IS	HI LO .	PA FACILI	Allino	OPEAKER JAS
NAME	MODEL	P.F.	NO	32	15	12	A	12	RF	12	5	1 00	HI	1 2	1	1
AUDIO LINE	341	£60	40	13.8VDC				•	•	•	•		•	•		L
AUDIO LINE	340	£40	40	13.8VDC	•		-	•		•	•					T
AUDIO LINE	342	£115	40	13.8VDC	•						•		-	•		
COLT	295	£49.99	40	13.8VDC	0		Test St						0		•	
COMMTEL	GT858	£30	40	13.8DVC			1000									Î
COMMTEL	GT688	£36	4.0	13.8DVC										•	•	
COMMTRON	CB40F	£70	40	13.8VDC		-	-						•		•	t
COMMTRON	CXX	£69.95	40	13.8VDC	•	-							1	•		1
COMMUNICATORS	NI-440DX	£50	40	13.8DVC												t
CYBERNET		£70	40	13.8VDC	0					-	-	•				+
CYBERNET	BETA 1000 BETA 2000	£70 £86	40	13.8VDC	0			-		•			-	•		+
CYBERNET	BETA 2000	£169	40	13.8VDC		$ \rightarrow $			0	÷	0			-	•	+
CYBERNET	DELTA 1	£355	20	13.8VDC	0			-		-				-		1-
INTERCEPTOR	INTERCEPTOR	£80	40	13.8V0C	0			-	•	•	0	-		\vdash	•	1
INTERCEPTOR	TC400	£95	40	13.8VOC			0					-			•	1
INTERCEPTOR	ONE HANDER	£100	40	13.8VOC				•	•	•		•				+-
JOHNSON	JOHNSON	£50	40	13.8VDC	0				•				•	•		1-
LAKE	MANXMAN 850	£32.50	40	13.8VDC					-	-		-	•	-		+
LAKE	MANXMAN 950	£37.50	40	13.8VDC					•	-		-		•		1
LOWE	TX 40	£50	40	13.8VDC					•						0	t
MAGPIE	AUTOSCAN 5000	£120	40	13.8VDC	0			•	•		•	-		•	0	
МАХСОМ	4E	£50	40	13.8VDC							•			•		
MAXCOM	6E	£48	40	13.8VDC			100		•			-				
MAXCOM	20E	£50	40	13.8VDC						(in the	•					
MAXCOM	21E	£50	40	13.8VDC		-	1000	Constant of		1.1	•					
MAXCOM	16E	£40	40	13.8VOC							•				0	
махсом	30E	£65	40	13.8VDC	•			•	•	•	•		•	•	•	
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	VOLUME		TX H	1							A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	E J	0		,	· (

REFERENCE

This listing includes most of the rigs available for FM CB. Some rigs are still not on the market, but may be picked up second-hand or may be found in old stock at some shops. The prices quoted are recommended retail prices or typical price — they may vary considerably from shop to shop and area to area.

orr Feb '82 mer Switch Features er Beep Feature port May '83 port September '83	ADDRESS Telecomms. 189 London Rd. North End, Portsmouth K B & Co Ltd., 202 Cheetham Hill Rd, Manchester Globe, 169 Brooker Roed, Waltham Abbey, Essex Roger D, 831 Manafield Rd, Notts Telecomms, 198 London Rd, North End, Portsmouth	AUDIOLINE AUDIOLINE AUDIOLINE COLT COMMTEL COMMTEL COMMTRON COMMTRON
er Beep Features	K B & Co Ltd., 202 Cheetham Hill Rd, Manchester Globe, 169 Brooker Road, Waltham Abbey, Essex Roger D, 831 Mansfield Rd, Notts	AUDIOLINE AUDIO LINE COLT COMMTEL COMMTEL COMMTRON COMMTRON
er Beep Feature port May '83 port September '83	Globe, 168 Brooker Road, Waltham Abbey, Essex Roger D, 831 Mansfield Rd, Notts	AUDIO LINE COLT COMMTEL COMMTEL COMMTRON COMMTRON
er Beep Feature port May '83 port September '83	Globe, 168 Brooker Road, Waltham Abbey, Essex Roger D, 831 Mansfield Rd, Notts	COLT COMMTEL COMMTEL COMMTRON COMMTRON
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port May '83 port September '83	Telecomms, 198 London Rd, North End, Partsmouth	CYBERNET
port September '83	Telecomms, 198 London Rd, North End, Portsmouth	CYRERNET
port September '83		STREDUCT
		CYBERNET
		CYBERNET
ort Oct '84		CYBERNET
		INTERCEPTOR
		INTERCEPTOR
		INTERCEPTOF
at GT868 chassis	Star Warehouse, Chalk Farm Rd, London	JOHNSON
	Roger D. 831 Manufield Rd., Nottingham NG5 3GF	LAKE
ort April '83		LAKE
oort March '83	Lowe Electronics, Matlock, Derbyshire	LOWE
oort November '82	Magpin Electronics, PO Box 35, Andover, Rants SP10 2LG	MAGPIE
	AM House, 9A Old's Approach, Tolpits Ln, Watford, Herts	MAXCOM
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ort Jan '84		MAXCOM
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27/81		RETAIL PRICE	*	Suner, wor	,14GE	3	TCH	-winch	am	~	S. R. CONTROL	rerea	Millo R.O	Pare Courput	Tur
NAME	MODEL	RETAIL	NO	Sunprivers	Sour.	NB 510	ANIC	MIKE	RE GA	TONE	3.6	S. Ac	HING	PAR.	EX SPE.
MERCURY	10 40	N/A	40	13.8VDC			1							•	•
MUSTANG	CB1000	£49.95	40	13.8VDC	•	1.3					•	-	B. C.		•
MUSTANG	CB3000	£59.99	40	13.8VDC	•		1000		•	٠	٠	1	3.00	•	•
NATO	40M	£69.95	40	13.8VDC	•		-	•	•	•	•		202	•	•
NATO	2000	£189.95	40	13.8VDC	•		•		•	•	•	1.15	•	•	•
OSCAR	OSCAR I	£85	40	13.8VDC	•				ic man		•		•		
OSCAR	OSCAR II	£49	40	13.8VDC	•		1		- 7			- N	•	•	•
RADIOTECHNIC	SUPERTUNED M40	£59.95	40	13.8VDC	•	12				1.00	•		•		•
RADIOTECHNIC	RT 852	£69.95	40	13.8VDC	•		prover de				•		•		
ROTEL	RVC 220	£50	40	13.8VDC	•						•		•		
ROTEL	RVC 230	£70	40	13.8VDC	•				•	•	•		•	•	•
ROTEL	RVC 240	£90	40	13.8VDC	•			•	•	•	•		•	•	
SIRTEL	SEARCHER	£40	40	13.8VDC	•		1		1		•			•	•
TANDY	TRC2001	£80	40	13.8VDC	•				1		•		•	•	•
TANDY	TRC2002	£70	40	13.8VDC	•						•		•	٠	•
TANDY	TRC2000	£100	40	13.8VDC	•		1 Rul	•	•		•		•	•	•
TANDY	TRC1004	£79	40	12VDC	•						1		•		
TANDY	TRC2003	£130	40	13.8VDC									•		•
UNIDEN	UNIACE 100	£69.96	40	13.8VDC	•	20					•	1.00	•	•	•
UNIDEN	UNIACE 200	£89.95	40	13.8VDC	•		-	•	•	•	•		•	•	•
WESTERN	COMPACT 40	£34.50	40	13.8VDC	•		1				•		•		•
WESTWARD	P.T.2	£159.95	40	13.8VDC 240V	•						•		•	•	•

CB 27/81		~		OF CHAMMELS Per y Tage		NB Such	mich	Julifer H	Gain	M	S RE CONTROL	METER	41-11- FO A-TO	Pa Fac	Ex Spec
NAME	MODEL	RETAIL PRICE	202	SUPPLY VOLTAGE	Sour.	NB S	ANI	MILE	RE GA	Tom.	5 80	S.R.	HIL	24	13
AUDIOLINE	345	£139.95	40	240VAC	•			•	•	•	•	13	•	•	
COMMTEL		£65	40	240/12V	•	1.20					•		1.30		
HAM INT.	JUMBO	£254	40	240VAC	•		•	•	•					•	•
HARVARD	H401	£149.95	40	240VAC	•			•	•		•		•		
HARVARD	WT44		40	BATTERIES	•						1111		•	28	
KAISER	CBX40	£80	40	BATTERY	•		000	· · ·			•	3.4.5	•	100	•
махсом	7E	£69.95	40	BATTERY	•		1 1-1				1	4.3	•	1.42.6	
TANDY	TRC1001	£119		BATTERY	•		and and				•		•	. •	•
UNIDEN	UNIACE 300	£149.95	40	240VAC	•		1	•		٠	•		•	•	•
WESTWARD	P.T.2	£159.95	40	240V/12V	•		1000				•	100	•	•	•

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- Mack	RX IN LIGHT	O. LiGht	Swirch	COMMENTS	MOBIL	ES
X	8× 10	CH.	Suine	COMINI	ADDRESSES	NAME
•	0		FR	Report July '83	E.M.S. Communications, Grave St. Wantage, Oxon LX21 7AD	MERCURY
•	•	12.00	FL	Mar 120 106.000 100 100	K B. & Co Ltd, 202 Chaetham Hill Rd, M/cr.	MUSTANG
•	•	•	FL	ite to serve and the serve age		MUSTANG
•			FL		Roger D, 831 Mansfield Rd, Nottingham NG5 3GF	NATO
•	2015		SL	Report January '83	TO MANAGEMENT STOLEN CONTRACTOR OF THE STOLEN CONTRACTOR	NATO
			FL	Cybernet 134 chassis rep. April '82	S.M.C. Runbridge St, Totton, Hents SO4 40P	OSCAR
	24	-	FL	Report Oct '83		OSCAR
•		-	FL	Report July '82	Radiotechnic Ltd. Rue des Buttes, St Mary, Jersey, C.1/23 Telford Rd. Fern	RADIOTECHNIC
•	•		F1_	Report Nov '85	Down Industrial Estate, Fern Down, Wimborne, Dorset	RADIOTECHNIC
•		-	FL	Cybernet chassis	Rotel Hi-Fi, 2-4 Erics Rd, Stacey Bushes, Miton Keynes	ROTEL
•	•	•	SL	Cybernet chessis		ROTEL
•	22	94.54	SL	Cybernet chassis	MELLING & MARCHARD MARCHARD	ROTEL
•	20.0	12.34	FL		Manager Manufacture and State States	SIRTEL
•	•		SL	1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-	Teme Way, Tower Bridge St, Walsail, Staffs	TANOY
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•			1200			TANDY
	1		SL	Report Nov '82	and share we have the set of the set of the set	TANDY
•	100		SL	Report Sept '82	Craveminster Ltd, Unit 8, Ind Est, Llandudno Junct, Gwynodd	UNIDEN
•	0	11.52	FL	Report Feb '83	CONVERSION STATISTICS AND A CALL THE	UNIDEN
•		Phi	SL		Western Electronics, Fairfield Est, Louth, Notts	WESTERN
			FL	Report Nov '83	Westward Electronics, The Mill House, Westward Tuckenhay, Totnes, Devon 086423 336/370	WESTWARD

TX MUD. LIGHT	Surnay	Countering	BASES & PORTAB	LES
X	CH S	Con	ADDRESSES	NAME
•			Telecomms, Portsmouth and Globe, Essex	AUDIOLINE
1988	FR	Report December '83. Also comes with telescopic entenna		COMMTEL
•	SL	Contract of the second s		HAM INT.
•	FL			HARVARD
	1000	External antenna facility	Globa, 188 Brooker Road, Walthem Abbey, Essex	HARVARD
•			Telecomme. 188 London Road, North End. Portsmouth	KAISER
•	1 addas		Sherman's Wholesale, 3 Bury New Rd, Manchester (061-834 9571)	MAXCOM
3	Constant of		Tame Way, Tower Bridge Street, Walsall	TANDY
•	FL	Reviewad August '83	Craventninstor Ltd., Unit 8, Industrial Estate, Llandudno Junction, Gwynedd	UNIDEN
	FL	Report Nov '83	Westward Electronics. The Mill House, Tuckenhay, Totnes, Devon 080423 336/370	WESTWARD

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MSA

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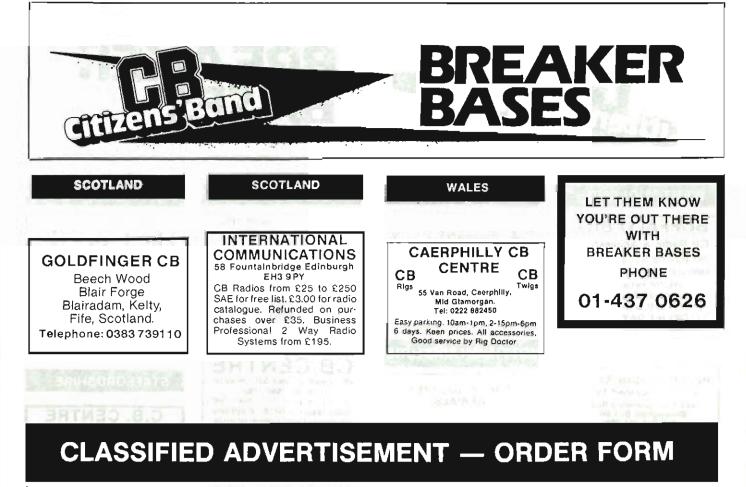
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