

APRIL 1985

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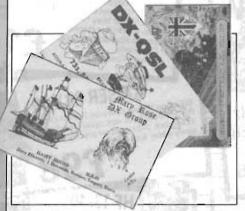
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One Step Ahead of the Rest!

Citizens' Bi



Inside this month The hobby of QSLing - David Shepherdson explains what it is, how it started and how you can start.

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NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF CB NEWS FROM

THE

WORLD



Editorial

Well, we're on the move again. By the time you read this, we should be firmly ensconced back at our old headquarters in Golden Square, deep in the heart of London. Big city, bright it should make a lights . change from Hemel Hempstead, although, contrary to popular opinion. Hemel is not a sleepy little village. True, it isn't on the underground, but it has got a McDonalds! Anyway, as is usual with any move, it is bound to be a major upheaval so please bear with us if any correspondence temporarily goes astray Normal service will be resumed as soon as possible. The main point is that all correspondence should now be addressed to Citizens' Band, 1, Golden Square, London W1R 3AB. All correspondence, that is, with the exception of back numbers and subscriptions which are available from the Hemel Hempstead address listed on the Reader Services page.

One point which was recently brought to my attention concerns the press coverage of the story about a clergyman from Powys

The Sickest Wally? While many people are doing their best to help others in need via CB radio, others are doing the opposite. In the Southend area, some brain-damaged wally who calls himself Dr Death is terrorising blind and disabled breakers. He apparently gets his kicks by

All in a Good Cause

Four breakers from Scotland will be carrying out a sponsored modulation on behalf of the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust from midnight Thursday 18th April until midnight Saturday 20th April. The modulation will take place from the Green Lowther Hills, Dumfries.

Cystic Fibrosis is a disease Scotland.

who was banned from broadcasting hymns on the local CB. At least one, if not more, of the nationals reported that, apart from the fact that music is prohibited from being broadcast, citizens' band radio was a "person to person" communications system. This could be interpreted as meaning that you are only allowed to talk to one person at a time which, of

course, is nonsense. This would mean that, if one mobile was communicating with another mobile with a passenger, the unfortunate passenger would have to put his hands over his ears or get out and walk! I can only assume that lines were crossed somewhere, and, by the time the story was printed, the phrase personal communications" had been transformed to person to person communications", changing the meaning completely.

Anyway, that's all for this month, I'm off to see the sights. Buckingham Palace, the Tower of London ... it's all too much for a country boy like me.

Eamonn Percival

following breakers across the channels and threatening them. One of his victims was sent a hearse, police and fire engines, others have been told they have cancer. At the time of writing, he is still on the loose — let's hope it's not too long before he is traced.

which attacks the lungs and digestive systems of the sufferers. Although research is helping to ease the crippling effect of the disease, there is still no known cure. All donations should be sent to: Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust, Account Number 256001, Royal Bank of Scotland, High Street, Dumfries, Scotland.

Beat the Burglars

With the thousands of rigs in cars around the country and the thousands of lightfingered lawbreakers around, the chances are that a good many rigs will be stolen from time to time. Bearing this in mind, it's nice to hear of a new product from Berol of Norfolk which is designed to assist in the return of goods which have been recovered by the police. The Berol Detective is a

The befor Detective is a security kit comprising a fine-tipped pen and a broadtipped marker, together with warning window stickers and a property check list. Both the pen and the marker contain transparent ink which can be used on most surfaces including metal and plastic. The mark that is made is visible when first applied but, when dry, can only be seen under ultra-violet light.

The police are also encouraging motorists to use Detective on the inside of their cars so that, if a car is stolen and even resprayed, the rightful owner can prove the vehicle is his.

The Berol Detective Kit retails at £1.60. The pen alone is 70p and the marker is also available separately for 90p. They are available from most branches of W.H. Smith.

Rangers Fact Sheet

A.L.C./A.L.E.R.T. (UK) Operations, as we recently reported, have introduced a new section for junior members, called, "Rangers". They have also just produced the first Rangers Fact Sheet which is full of very useful information and tips on methods of communication including the phonetic alphabet, morse, semaphore and sign language. There is also a very informative section on message carrying, incident reporting and first aid. Their address is: 3, Baker Street, Blackburn, Lancashire BB1 1NZ.



Berol Detective (see left)

World Record Attempt

In January, we carried a news item about Len Campbell, who is aiming to break the world record for non-stop bicycle riding, with the help of a CB and ham network for the project. Since then, some of the details have changed. The attempt has now been deferred until September with a number of lead-up rides prior to the event but, at the time of going to press, no details of the venue are available. The other major change is that Len will now be riding to raise funds for the British Association for Sporting and Recreational Activities for the Blind.

Go Ahead for Community Radio

Although no specific details have been released, the Home Secretary, Leon Brittan, has indicated in a written answer to a question in the House of Commons that he is keen to permit community radio to go ahead as soon as possible.

He anticipates that such radio stations will be selffunding (either through advertising revenue or community fundraising) and that they will not be replicas of either BBC or IBA local radio stations — that is they will cater to specific local or specialist needs and will not be general music stations.

The many (and some very successful) pirate radio stations are unlikely to see their dream of legitimacy come true though. At the moment many of them cater for wide musical tastes over quite a large area and are unlikely to come within the Government's definition of fulfilling a community need. Government departments can have long memories too and it seems doubtful that they would be prepared to grant permits or licences to operators that they know have been involved in illegal broadcasting.

The implementation of community radio stations is the next success in a long line of 'broadcasting freedoms' that the Government have been under pressure to introduce. In many ways, it has been similar to the legalisation of CB, where people have been prepared to both break the law and lobby vigorously for the introduction of a service that they considered a fundamental right.

It will be interesting to see exactly what the Government decides the function of a community radio is - it seems likely that they will be most sympathetic to stations catering to the needs of ethnic minorities and very localised communities. I cannot see them showing the same tolerance to either stations with a strong political bias or, as the Australian authorities have allowed, 5000w of special interest music (usually rock and roll, soul or jazz etc, not aborigine tribal music!).

Self-Feed Soldering Iron

The Grey Beard kindly passed some information to us about a new miniature soldering iron. The lightweight iron is designed for one-handed operation, so the benefits to disabled people are obvious.

The flux-cored solder is housed in its transparent handle and is fed through a stainless steel tube to the bit. The solder is applied directly to the joint by turning the serrated wheel (located in the handle) with the index finger of the hand holding the iron.

The iron costs £17.25 and is available from Gardner Precision Engineering, North Road, Woking, Surrey GU21 5DS.



Grey Beard's Gleanings

Hello again. I hope that you are all well and not suffering from the ill-effects of the wintery weather. Most of my CBing has had to be carried on from indoors as my 'chariot' is no great shakes at keeping me warm! This has allowed me to do some tests on my two base station aerials. They are a Modulator Expert and a Thunderpole III.

I have been using the Modulator for several months now and find it to be very well constructed and easily tuned to a VSWR of better that 1.2:1, although this can be improved upon if you are a perfectionist! It is a good all-round piece of equipment that is equally at home chasing the DX, or for local QSOs. The over-riding factor with this antenna is the fact that it can be fitted in restricted spaces, thus allowing you to fit an external antenna rather than a "loft-type".

The Mk III Thunderpole is a no-compromise external antenna, too. The groundplane radials mean that it really needs to be fitted on a pole away from walls and so on. I have fitted the optional extra ground-plane kit so the antenna has been mounted on top of a pole some 12ft away from the rear of the house, and at about 23ft above ground level. The extra groundplane kit is currently fitted with the legs in parallel to the standard ones. Later on I hope to re-fit the extra ground-plane kit splitting the existing angles to see what effect this has on performance. Some reasonable DX has been worked here recently, at 4 watts, on both of the antennae. Stow-on-the-Wold was worked, mid morning, with good signal reports being exchanged.

On the wheel-chair scene, many people are writing to ask me how to "feed" their CB rigs from the batteries on their 'chairs. This is definitely not recommeded! In fact the wheelchair guarantee is invalidated by doing this! You have been warned! I am looking for information on the suppression of 'chair-based electronic interference occuring whilst mobile, anyone got any ideas? Also news of selfconstructed CB/SWL accessories, please? This last would seem to be the most popular request after pleas for info' on processor mikes!

Will all you armchair detectives that want one of my QSL cards please enclose a stamp for my reply, as my postage costs are going right through the roof!

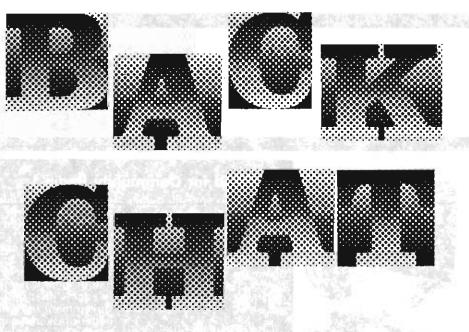
Well, once again I've run out of space, so 73's & 88's.

"The Grey Beard"



More points of view from the postbag

A second second



Power to the People

Charlie Brown of Borehamwood has some ideas on current restrictions . . .

After reading the many letters in your truly wondrous mag on the subject of laws which restrict the use of CB equipment in this country, I have finally decided to put pen to paper.

Firstly, a point about the effectiveness of these laws. Putting it simply, most of them aren't effective. Why? Because a law is only effective when most citizens take notice of it. It is patently obvious (just take a random sample of ten home-base antennas in use at the moment in any British town) that, in the case of CB restrictions, many people don't.

Similarly, laws and restrictions are useless if they can't be enforced. Let's face it, the DTI cannot be expected to enforce the ones governing the use of CB. They'd need a cast of thousands to tackle Hertfordshire alone! So what should be done? How about the following?

1. Lift all restrictions on antenna design. The current restrictions are totally ignored by many CBers anyway, including myself. What's the point in keeping the current restrictions if they can't be enforced? I can hear shrieks of "Bleedover!" and "More overcrowding of channels!". Well, yes, but perhaps: 2. Expand frequency allocation to 27-28MHz. Enough room for plenty of channels, less overcrowding and less bleedover. 27-28MHz is already the "citizens' band" in effect anyway. Any other service in this band might just as well forget it!

3. Keep the ban on the use of SSB and AM. Most CBers using these modes (and, compared with FMers, there aren't many anyway) only do so to escape the "rotten 40". I would hope that the majority of them might change their minds, faced with a possible 100 legal FM channels. Besides, we all know what AM and SSB signals do to TVs. Ask my mum.!

4. Keep the power limit to 4 watts. Again, with 100 channels and decent antenna systems allowed, who'd need 1000 watts?

5. Forget the idea of introducing exams to be taken and passed before a licence will be allocated. In fact, you might as well forget the idea of licences altogether unless the DTI can realistically hope to prosecute all CBers who transmit without one. What did I hear you say? "You can't expect the DTI to do anything." Ah, precisely!

In conclusion then, we all want the chance to modulate, be it DX or doorto-door. These current laws and restrictions don't and will never allow us to do so properly. It's about time that the powers-that-be sussed this out and "gave the people what they want".

Auto-Ident

lan Leslie, the president of the British Citizens' Band Council experiences déjà vu . . .

History really does repeat itself! Blackjack's idea (Back Chat, February) of having CB rigs uniquely identified by a simple binary-coded sign-off (or signon) signal is excellent. But perhaps he, and many of your readers, are too new to CB to know that the Citizens' Band Association (CBA) was pushing this proposal from 1976 until CB was legalised. Indeed, it would be cheap and simple; it was reliably estimated at that time to add about 50p to the exworks cost of a rig.

The idea was not taken up then because most breakers perceived the Big Brother aspect more clearly than the potential benefits!

The benefits could include perhaps never on 27, but easily on 934 — the possibility of business agencies, or even the cellular phone companies coming into the business of accepting messages for CB users for onward transmission for a fee (since the autoident could be registered when subscribing to the service, and would give a firm basis for billing the customer).

I would urge readers like Blackjack who want to *develop* the CB service to join the BCBC and help push their it off". What is needed for the RRD to get together with an independent body to carry out a clean-up campaign on FM and maybe make use of the £10 licence fee. Meanwhile would the homebases all over the country please clean up their act and move off channel 19,



Automatic identification signals for 934 - would they help?

sensible proposals. There *are* receptive ears now in the DTI ready to listen to us.

Let's Campaign

Ranger 3 was in for a surprise when he returned from abroad . . .

I have recently returned to the UK after a few years in West Germany. When I left, I was campaigning for CB and was active on the "FCC 40". We had our problems then — namely, trying to stay one step ahead of BT and going 10-7 as soon as the police came near us, but now! I've been back on the air again for about two months and I didn't think you could squeeze so many brainless prats within 40 channels.

I read J. A. Taylor's letter in your January issue and obviously he is someone who would like to see the airwaves cleaned up, but his ideas would never be adopted. Not when you consider the vast number of homebases who insist on prattling on channel 19 when mobile traffic are doing their best to get access to the up-to-date 10-13s.

The RRD should spend more time cleaning up FM and leave AM alone. I find the truckers are by far the largest collection of CBers who use the system to its best advantage, but there are exceptions. The worst incident of mindless usage was an East Anglian trucker who I had the misfortune to be on the front door of for some miles up the A1. He insisted on hogging channel 19 for about half an hour with brainless foul language, followed by another half hour having a slanging match with another trucker. When I asked him to please move off channel 19 he told me "If you don't like it, turn

which is for mobile use.

I am not saying CB is no good, but I do feel that something which has great potential as a two-way radio system needs policing. I think that the "hams" of the UK should also stop looking down their noses at us. I think homebase aerial restrictions should be lifted and we could also do with the system expanding to 80 channels FM and 80 channels SSB — but not pure AM. But I know the answer to that will be "You cannot even use the existing system properly".

I spent a lot of time and money campaigning for CB in the past and I think it's time I started again to get what we've got cleaned up and expanded — in that order. A large number of good breakers have left CB because of the wallies who infest the system. Well, I hope that they and the 99% of good, existing CBers will campaign for a clean up — now.

Freedom from Interference

A reader from Kent, who wishes to remain anonymous, has a few words to say about restrictions . . .

After reading Back Chat in your December issue and the letter from "Bored", 1 feel I must comment about the use of AM, FM and SSB. If we were given or allowed most or more of the bands being used (for example fire, police, lifeboat, TV, radio, taxis, buses etc), then we should be allowed to use them freely and if we do create interference, then the governing authority tells us to do something about it. If nothing is done, then we do not use it. I'm sure the users will co-operate on a strict non-interference basis. The Home Office says CB radio is for a local service only and all who wish to have international contacts should qualify for a ham licence, but not everybody has the money to pay for fees and higher-priced equipment, which is probably why many use illegal equipment.

To SSB or not to SSB . . .

Chris of Caerphilly is cheesed off with FM CB and suggests a rather drastic solution...,

Having read some recent correspondence in *Citizens' Band*, I would like to say that, as an AM SSB operator, I would hate to see AM SSB legalised, as this is the only place where wallies are unknown.

Illegality keeps the wallies away, which means that we can talk to our hearts' content without being wallied. Also, as most of the operators use their radios after TV hours, we eliminate the chances of TVI and getting busted. I myself have had one radio confiscated due to operating in TV hours, and that is why we operate after TV closedown.

The only way to clear up the legal system is to fine the wallies very heavily. Either that, or make all CB illegal.

CB Against Racism

Red Flying Kite offers food for thought on radio-racism . . .

Recent mass media reports of racists attacks against Asian families in Britain prompt me to write to your magazine about a lesser-known aspect of racism in this country.

All over London, anonymous racists promote their hatred of foreigners, blacks and Asians over the citizens' band frequencies — making it almost impossible for any operator with a "foreign" accent to utilise this mode of communications. As soon as an Asian voice, for instance, is heard on any of the channels, he/she is abused and invited, among other things, to "Go back where you came from, you ****** ******!" (Presumed nationality

or race often added to the insult.)

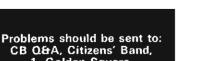
It is my opinion that the specialist press (*Citizens' Band* magazine), CB clubs, CB pressure and monitoring groups and individual anti-racist breakers have the social responsibility to pressurise the Home Office and demand that an end is put to this depressing state of affairs which transcends in seriousness the habitual verbal pollution on CB by wallies and other bucketmouths.

Racism on CB has very grave social and political consequences which cannot be ignored or tolerated by any of us as long as people are being physically attacked in our own midst by organised racists!

My appeal to those concerned is: Together, let us clean our frequencies of this cancerous racism which deprives ethnic minorities of their right to use CB in Britain.



Smart Alec ponders over a plethora of problems



1, Golden Square, London W1R 3AB



Shed a little light

From Alloa, in Scotland, comes a cry lor help. Mr M. A. Clark has a problem with LED signal indicators...

Q I received an Amstrad CB 901 as a Christmas gift but, no matter what I do, only three or four of the LEDs light up on transmit, suggesting that it does not develop the full 4 watts. We have tried four different combinations of aerial and coaxial cable and the plugs and elbow joints have all been soldered with great care.

My VW Polo is fitted with a DV base, onto which is mounted a longish, pre-SWRed aerial, yet I still only get three LEDS on channels 1 to 9 and four on the higher channels, despite the fact that other breakers tell me that I am transmitting a strong signal over a range of about seven miles. What really puzzles me is the fact that when the aerial was fed through an accurate SWR meter all five LEDS came on. Please can you help?

A Di nae fret, Mr Clark. You do not really have a problem. The LEDs are driven by a small chip, usually sited behind the display, which operates independently of the RF output and I feel that in the case of your rig this chip has been set on the mean side. By all means check the RF output with a decent power meter but I have little doubt that you will find it up to the mark, as you are receiving good signal reports.

The fact that the use of an SWR meter induced all the LEDs into action is yet more proof of the fact that coaxial length can affect performance, though I promise you that the difference in a case such as this would be minimal.

If, having ascertained that the rig is transmitting properly, you are concerned by the lack of LEDs I suggest that you take the rig to a competent engineer and ask him to adjust the circuit driving the diodes. On the other hand, it may be safely ignored.

A life on the ocean waves (2) CB and boats seem to go well together. From Nuneaton, in Warwickshire, Mr C. Mills asks a question on behalf of quite a few readers...

Q I wish to install a CB radio on a glassfibre canal cruiser. Your general

advice will be welcome but, in particular, what type of antenna do you recommend and should one attempt to construct some form of ground plane?

It would be possible to line the underside of the glassfibre with aluminium foil if this would improve the radiation pattern.

A There are a number of ways of tackling such an installation, Mr Mills. One method is to use one of the specially manufactured non groundplane antennae, such as, for instance, the Allgon boat antenna, which may be mounted either direct to the glassfibre shell of the boat, or to a mast mounted on it. Alternatively you may create a ground plane by bonding aluminium foil to the surface on which the antenna is to be fixed and then fixing the braid of the coaxial cable to the foil.

To be really effective at 27MHz, the ground plane ideally should be at least a quarter wavelength, (about 9ft) in diameter, though the water upon which the boat is travelling will act as a ground plane.

You do not say how your boat is powered. If the engine is a diesel you are most unlikely to encounter interference to the radio but if it is petrol you will find that the glassfibre hull offers no protection against ignition interference and the only cure may be to shield the engine by means of a metallic cover.

Do not forget to earth the case of the radio. An earth wire fixed to, for instance, a hull bolt below the water line will do fine.

The problems of power

From Cumbria, Gavin Dent, Thunderbolt to his friends, wants that little bit extra...

Q I am considering buying a Nevada TC35, 25 watt RF amplifier, together with a Nevada TC27RX pre-amp. Would either do any damage to my Amstrad CB901? Could I use them with my Bradex 13.8v psu, which gives a constant 3amps with a 5amp surge? Could I still use the PA system with the 25 watts switched in and what are your views on the technical, as opposed to the legal, aspects of such an installation?

A First things first, Gavin. You most certainly could not use a 25 watt

amplifier in conjunction with such a small psu. Although in theory, Ohms Law suggests that you can develop 25 watts at 13.8v for a current drain of under 3amps you have to take into account the current required to power both the rig and the amplifier, as well as the fact that almost all transistor driven equipment is only about 50% efficient. I would not contemplate using less than a 9amp psu, in order to allow a working margin.

The public address system has no connection with the transmitter output, which is automatically switched off when PA mode is selected.

There are a number of potential problems associated with both a power amplifier and a receiver pre-amp. For example, use of the RF amp may well lead to overdeviation, with the result that your signals will stray onto adjacent channels, whilst a pre-amp, unless it is extremely efficient, can have the effect of bringing in signals from channels either side of the one in use. You should also remember that a pre-amp will increase all of the incoming sound, unwanted noise included, and will hot improve the signal to-noise ratio.

My honest opinion is that you have little to gain from such expense.

Golden Oldie

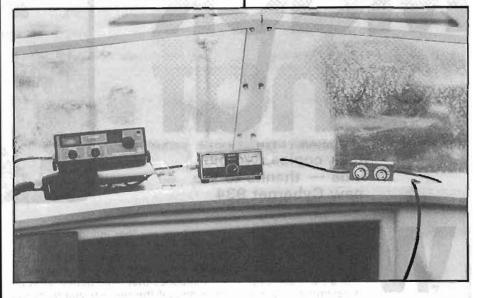
From Plymouth, Mr. W. E. Harvey touches my heart. He obviously shares my passion for motoring days gone by...

Q. I have an old but reliable motor car with a positive earth electrical system. I wish to equip the car with a Tandy emergency CB set, which I do not wish to use whilst in motion but which might prove most advantageous from many of the high spots on Dartmoor. I thought that I might be able to convert the car to negative earth by simply cutting off the cigar lighter and then connecting the leads to the positive and negative terminals of the battery but a salesman told me that this would not work because the magnetic base of the aerial would short-circuit the rig.

Put simply, my question is: Can I use the negative earth rig on my positive earth car, so long as the engine is not running?

A You can use the rig in connection with the battery from your car, so long as it has first been disconnected from the car.

Alternatively, it is possible to reverse the polarity of your car's electrical system. To do this, you should remove the dynamo from the car, connect a single wire across both of its terminals, then holding the case of the dynamo against one of the battery terminals, flash the wire across the other terminal a couple of times. The next step is to transpose the wires to the switch and contact breaker terminals of the ignition coil and reverse the wiring supplying the indicator flasher switch. If the car is fitted with a broadcast receiver, you must also reverse its polarity. Many of the older type sets had a small plug in the back panel for this purpose. The battery leads must also be reversed. If you are at all unsure of this method, I suggest you consult your local garage, who will be able to carry out the work without any difficulty. depends on whether the voltage input stage was diode protected, since the presence of such a diode may well have saved a number of components from destruction. Without such pro-



CB on a cruiser - see second letter

Economical repairs

Mr M. Firth, Silver Arrow, from Cornwall, is facing the loss of an old and trusted friend...

Q I recently suffered an accident in which my power supply unit's regulator failed and allowed the full 240 mains voltage straight through to my Hy-Gain V Mk.2. After I had got over the shock, I took it to the local rig doctor, who said he could not repair it as he had no circuit diagram and all of the internal components had been destroyed.

As the set originally cost me £70, I would be grateful if you could tell me if it would be worth rebuilding, or should I buy another set?

I would also appreciate it if you could supply me with a circuit diagram for the rig, or suggest where I might obtain one. I have about £50 to spare. Please can you tell me if this will cover the cost of repairs.

A A fault in the regulator of a psu would only subject the rig to about 24 Volts. Only a direct short between the primary and secondary windings would pass the full mains voltage to the rig, so I doubt whether the rig's components are quite as molten as they might have been.

Whether or not the rig is repairable



tection I am afraid you are faced with a total write-off, as the cost of spares, etc would exceed the cost of the rig, even if you could obtain them, and I doubt this would be easy.

You can reasonably expect all of the semi-conductors to have been destroyed, along with the majority of capacitors, most of which would show signs of explosion. There is, however, one test which you can carry out before giving up.

Replace the rig's in-line fuse and connect it to another psu, then switch on and measure the current drawn on recieve. If this is between 20mW and 200mW the rig may not be as badly damaged as I fear. If, on the other hand, the rig either fails to come to life at all, or if the current drain is either significantly higher or lower than these figures then I can see little point in going much farther with your investigations.

I am afraid I cannot be of much help in locating a circuit diagram for the Hy-Gain V. It has been some years, now, since I kept a stock of diagrams for multi-mode rigs but I am pretty sure that even if I had one, it would not be much help in this case.

Meter made

Geoff Fuller, Asterix, from Faversham, Kent, wants some advice on impedances...

Q I recently purchased a multimeter. As one of its functions is an ohm meter, I would like to use it for wiring microphones to a number of different CB rigs. Could you please tell me how this is done?

A Sorry, Geoff, but it can't be done. A multi-meter will only read DC impedances and the characteristic impedance of a microphone refers to AC.



Mack copies two old friends — thanks to the new Cybernet 934

ednesday, as I am sure you are aware, is the middle of the week. For me it is not a particularly interesting day as it is

as far from the weekend past as it is to the weekend to come, and just another working day. So on this cold and icy Wednesday, just to break the monotony. I decided that before going to work I would do some shopping at my local motor spares emporium to obtain some parts for my daughter's Mini. This I did and as I returned home with the motor spares I saw a post office van pulling away from my house. I did not give it much thought at the time as my wife is often receiving items from her catalogue club. On the kitchen table was a parcel. "It's for you," said my wife. "For me," "Who's sending me pressies" and as I looked at the parcel and saw the label the answer was revealed. Telecomms of Portsmouth had sent me one of their new Cybernet Delta One 934 rigs. Suddenly, this Wednesday seemed a little brighter and going to work would have to wait whilst I unpacked and tried out the rig.

After a quick check of the instructions to make sure that I had the right wires in the correct places, I switched on the rig. After adjusting the squelch and volume I keyed up the channels and instantly found two stations chatting and after a short listen I QSKed into the conversation between Jack of Clapham Common and Ted of Kentish Town, I had copied Jack way back when I had my Reftecs and he remembered me. I told him what I was using and he gave me a signal and audio report. I chatted for a few more minutes to both stations and took my leave of the channels as I realised that to pay for this superb new equipment I had to get out to work.

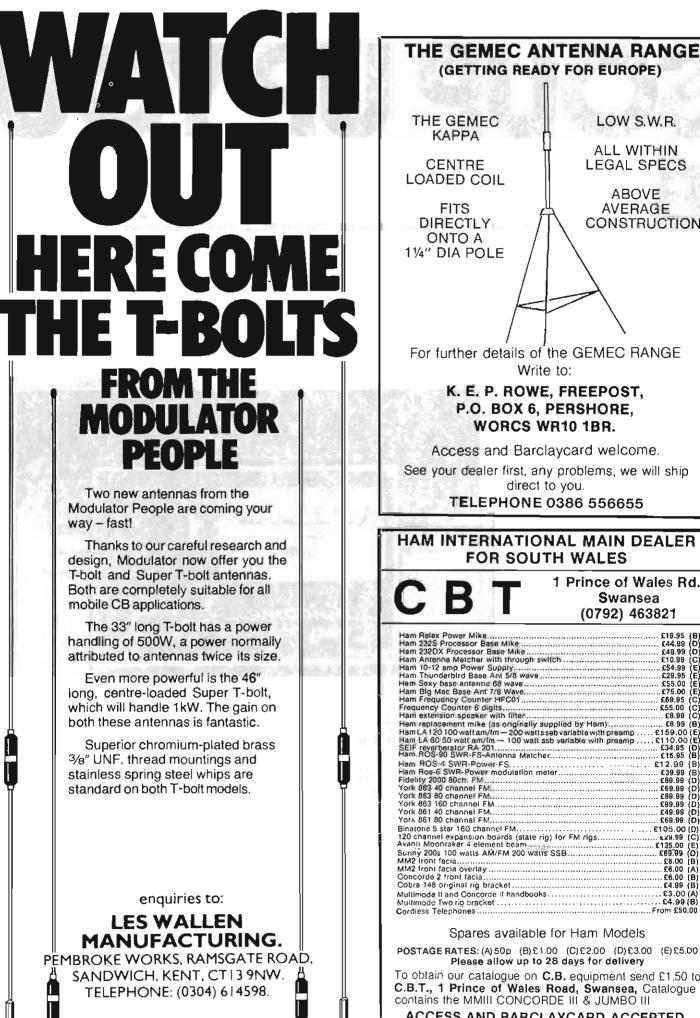
To say that the time dragged whilst working would be an understatement and by five o'clock I'd convinced myself that I was my own man and, If I wanted to finish early I could, so I told myself that I would make it up tomorrow or the next day by working later. Arriving home and ignoring the snide comments from my "her indoors" such as "What's this, half-day?" and, when I went up to my radio room, "See you some time, don't forget to write". I suppose that I had better tell you

my views of the rig. Smashing, wonderful, super, terrific! I believe that, compared to the other 934 rigs that we have had in the past, the Cybernet Delta One is what I would expect to get for the sort of money we pay for 934 rigs. It is definitely what I class as a hitech piece of radio equipment. Apart from the volume and squelch rotary controls the other functions are by almost touch-sensitive buttons. The scanning feature is what I find most useful, for if there are no stations on when I switch on, a touch of the scan key and the 20 channels are scanned in 11/2 seconds. If a station calls on any channel, the scan stops on that channel. As you can imagine it saves having to sit by the rig all the time twisting the channel selector knob listening for stations. I can now hear stations that I could not hear before with the Reftec. although I knew that they were there through the other stations that were working them, and I might add they can hear me now.

Yet another feature of the Delta One is its 16 channel memory storage. This function I have no use for at the present time because, with only 20 channels that we have now, I will not need to use it. If the rig had a hundred or so channels then maybe the memory function would be useful. If you are a regular reader of this mag you would have read Chris Peterson's review of the Cybernet Delta One a few months ago, so I won't bore you with a repeat of the other specifications. A few weeks before the Cybernet appeared on the scene, the Commtel 934 rig made its appearance. I could have been tempted to purchase one, but I knew the Cybernet was on its way and the extra £140 that the Commtel costs could pay for other accessories. The Commtel looks a nice rig but I am glad that I waited for the Cybernet.

When I returned to the 934 scene, a drama was in progress. You should have read by now a feature by Sue Sharp about the interference to the 934 frequency from cellular radio. Some of the owners of 934 equipment are hearing the telephone conversations of the users of this new radio phone and it was found that the operators of 934 rigs could also at times interfere with the telephone conversation. Racal, the producers of this equipment, are most concerned and it is claimed that they will try to solve the problem. They have even visited some of the owners of 934 rigs that have made complaints and inspected the rigs with, of course, the owners' permission. I also hear that Racal have purchased some 934 rigs for their own tests. Of course many of the 934 breakers are annoyed with the interference as they have spent hundreds of the green stuff for their stations. If it's any consolation, but I don't think it will be, people spend lots to obtain scanners and monitors so that they can earwig to the supposingly private telephone conversations. Well, whatever turns some people on.

In the February issue of this mag was a letter from Blackjack of Sussex who suggests that if and when we get more channels on the 27 the new rigs should incorporate a programmed EPROM or ident. chip. Way back when CB was in the motion of going legal, the Home Office published a sort of booklet or white paper that gave details of the proposed workings of the system. At the end of the booklet was an appeal for suggestions and ideas that could be of benefit to the proposed system. The incorporation of this ident. chip was suggested in a letter to the Home Office predicting the chaos that could be expected on the CB and giving, as an example, the way the American system had gone. As you all know, the advice was not heeded and l don't suppose that the powers-that-be would take any notice of the suggestion made by Blackjack. Already, it is too late as the adverts in this mag will show. Many people are fitting the expansion boards that will give the FCC channels on FM. As I mentioned a few months ago, who will make the new rigs? The only answer I can see is that we would have to convert our present rigs as it would be cheaper.



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ACCESS AND BARCLAYCARD ACCEPTED

ack in 1981, when CB became respectable for the first time, the specification was designed to offer an acceptable level of performance which we everyone a piece of the

would allow everyone a piece of the action. Are you getting yours? Everyone knows that the real

guarantee of performance from a CB station it to find yourself a home on top of a mountain, preferably with no neighbours for miles around and having a view to equal that from the top of the Empire State Building but, since only a handful can, or would wish to, live in these idyllic surroundings, the rest of us are obliged to operate in situations which vary from pretty good to downright unfriendly. Deep valleys abound and someone has to live in them. Most towns are strewn with tall buildings, large metallic objects and other oddities not conducive to radio transmissions. So, we are obliged to make the best of our surroundings when setting up CB equipment. There are a few odd places from where, no matter what you do, reasonable transmission ranges cannot be achieved but most of us can expect reasonable performance from properly set-up equipment.

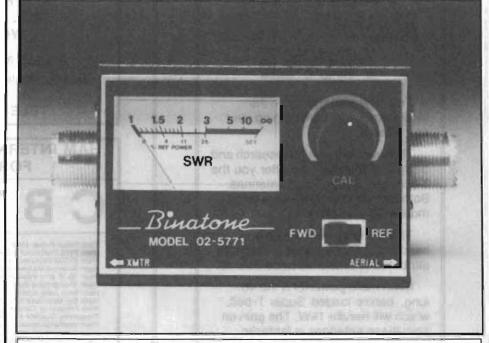
Now all of this might seem obvious but a recent call for help from a new breaker set me wondering. It seems that he had decided to go into CB in a big way and, having invested in a good quality base station rig and just about every conceivable accessory, had been very disappointed with its performance. In sheer desperation he had treated himself to a 100 watt power amplifier but that had created a new set of problems all of its own. For the first time, he was now causing TVI and his signal reports were still nothing to get excited about. So, what was he to do?

A few minutes operation from his station and a few notes compared with local breakers showed that something was indeed amiss and my suspicions immediately pointed to the rig itself. Although most rigs claim a power output of 4 watts, they can vary dramatically. I have found brand new rigs offering as much as twice the permitted output, whilst others were showing less than 1 watt and a quick check with an accurate power meter soon showed that here we were developing only about 1.5 watts. Obviously we would have to delve into the workings of the rig. Resetting the power output stages was a relatively simple matter, though I did manage to resist the blandishments of its owner, who wanted "just a couple of extra watts. Only to give me an extra mile or two." The temptation to 'tweak' a rig is always a strong one but the advantages are so slight that it really is not worth the bother and such minor modification always carries with it the danger that the rig will subsequently overdeviate, spilling its outgoing signal onto the adjacent channels, with consequent annovance to other breakers, whilst the resultant extra strain is almost guaranteed to shorten, the effective life of the power amplifier chip. Remember that most rigs were designed to a price and that whilst most components will happily give of their best so long as they are allowed to work within their design parameters, they will soon complain if they are pushed too far.

SOUP UP YOU

So long as we had the top off the rig, it seemed only reasonable to test the performance of its receiver, which,

the transmission line and antenna and here I found a number of problems. The first of these was a permanently installed SWR meter, the reading from which was now causing its owner considerable consternation. What had appeared to him eminently reasonable before my ministrations, at a healthy 1.5 to 1, was now showing a slightly alarming 2.7 to 1, which our intrepid breaker was all for reducing by means of an antenna tuning unit. "Not at all." says I, bravely prepared to risk the price of a pint on my conviction that matters could be improved by more natural methods. After all, antenna tuning units might tune out the apparent mis-match but they do so at considerable cost in terms of power output



Leaving an SWR meter permanently in-line means reduced transmitted power

due to our friend's insistence on buying the best, was of the double superheterodyne type, with Intermediate Frequency stages at 10.7MHz and 465kHz. A quick check with the circuit diagram identified the relevant pots, and, tuning to a fairly feeble incoming signal, I made a few tiny adjustments, the net result of which was to improve our reception of the signal from a rough S2 to a quite impressive S5. IF tuning is a task which should be undertaken with a great deal of delicacy, since the difference between a good incoming signal and virtually no signal at all can be a mere fraction of a turn and any error can take quite a time to rectify, but careful resetting can be very rewarding to the listener.

Satisfied that the rig was now well up to standard, I turned my attention to and hadn't we just spent fifteen minutes trying to improve that? At this stage I was far more concerned about the apparent permanence of the SWR meter, which seemed to puzzle my friend. An accurate SWR meter is a useful adjunct to any station but it really only should be used to make occasional checks on the relationship between rig, feeder cable and antenna. Leaving it permanently in line is bound to lead to some reduction in transmitted power, as each joint in a coax length is a potential source of RF leakage. It is also possible that you will cause TVI whilst using an SWR meter, when in all other respects your station is 'clean', as the meter's internal diodes rectify the RF passing through. However, for the moment I decided to leave the meter in line, as the next stage in



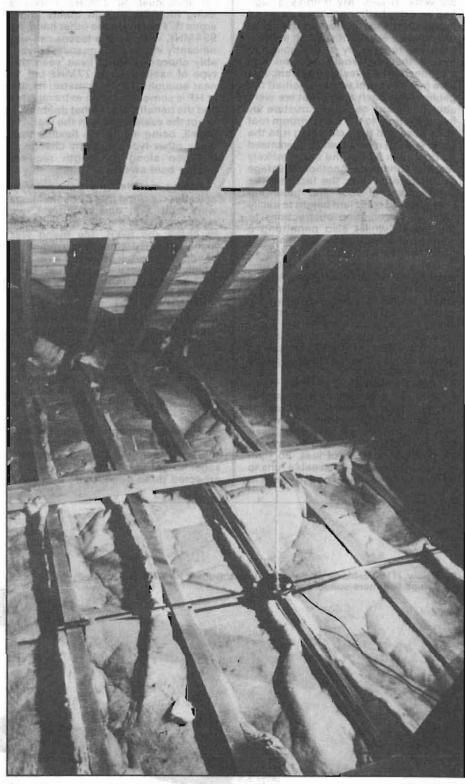
Keith Townsend tells how, with a little adjustment here and there, you can improve the performance of your setup

our investigation was to be the antenna, which I was informed, lived in the loft.

A short, but somewhat hairy climb on a rickety old step-ladder brought me face to face with yet another potential source of power loss. In measuring the length of coax needed to reach the antenna, my friend had neglected to allow for the various twists and turns required to feed it through the house and, being a thrifty sort of chap, had added the extra six or seven feet by means of a male to female coax connector. After all, it was a darned sight cheaper than forking out for a complete new length of cable. In this junction alone we had a potential loss factor of close on 3dB, or nearly half of the transmitted power and worse was to come.

As I looked round the loft I noticed that besides the CB antenna, it also acted as host to a television aerial and a couple of metallic water tanks. In any case, a loft is far from being the ideal situation for a transmitting antenna, which, when all is said and done, was designed to thrive on wide open spaces. In this particular case such a location offered a number of disadvantages. Firstly it meant that the antenna was sited a little too close to the TV aerial for comfort, with the result that the RF field was in danger of swamping the TV signal. In the final analysis it turned out that the only reason this had not happened was that the RF field had suffered considerable reduction as the result of the problems we were now rectifying. The second of our difficulties was those darned water tanks. Their presence, only about five or six feet from the antenna, was guaranteed to distort the radiation pattern, leading to a reduction of useable signal in their direction and contributing to the now unacceptable SWR. The third big disadvantage was that the overall height of the antenna was well below what was required to ensure that the signal cleared the surrounding topography.

Although I was easily able to persuade my friend that we should relocate the antenna out of doors he was not so easily convinced to forego the dipole in which he had invested a fair proportion of his ill-gottens. "Surely it must be more effective than a legal antenna." says he, "After all, it is a half-wave and nobody cares what size you use round here." Potentially, a dipole is capable of radiating a stronger signal than most legal antennae, but not when fastened directly to a length of 50ohm coax. The characteristic impedence of a half-wave dipole is in the region of 750hms and before it can give optimum results with a 500hm rig the impedence difference should be taken out by means of an impedence



A loft is far from being the ideal situation for a transmitting antenna. TV aerials and water tanks can cause problems

transformer fitted between coax and antenna. Without such a transformer it was responsible for a high percentage of our SWR reading.

Selecting a good quality base station antenna was no problem and, armed with a suitable length of aluminium pole, we adjourned to the garden to pick our new location. Here we were in luck. My friend's garage had an extra bedroom built over it and it was clear that the roof at this point provided an excellent site. Far enough from the main body of the house to ensure that we would offer no distractions to the television system, this area had a flat roof which adjoined the gable end in such a way that we were able to mount.our new structure by fixing the pole to the flat bedroom roof at its base and then clamping it to the gable end in a manner which guaranteed its rigidity in all but the most unlikely weather conditions. Another advantage of this location was the fact that the combination of roof and mounting pole ensured sufficient height to easily clear all surrounding obstructions to the signal, whilst also permitting a somewhat shorter cable run than had been needed when fed to the loft. In re-siting the antenna I had also persuaded my friend to throw out his original coaxial cable in favour of a single length of a better quality. The energy is transmitted to the antenna along the outer surface of the inner core of the cable and thicker cable, having a number of strands, will carry a greater current than the cheaper, single stranded stuff.

Cable losses at 27MHz are insignificant by comparison with higher frequencies and normally only become a problem in circumstances where very long cable runs have been used but I am a great believer in minimising all possible sources of loss, so I am always inclinded to keep cable runs to a reasonable minimum and to invest in good quality cable. Anyone who has been caught with a flat car battery on a wintry morning and found their cheapo set of jump leads inadequate, while the nice AA man's big hefty set did the trick admirably, will know just what I mean. I am often asked what type of cable is ideal for CB and the answer is very much open to the preferences of the individual. At 27MHz, I have a liking for RG8, though others might argue this point. On the other hand, for 934MHz, where cable losses can significantly impair performance, I invariably choose H100. I have seen this type of cable used at 27MHz but, at near enough £1.00 per metre, its use at HF is something of an extravagance and the benefits somewhat doubtful. It is not the easiest cable in the world to install, being much less flexible than many other types and any change in direction along its length requires quite a bold sweep.

Having installed the new antenna and after checking that its connections were both firm and watertight, we reconnected it to the rig and proceeded to check the SWR. My friend was highly delighted when, with a minimum of adjustment, we achieved a reading which was close to unity at band centre and which rose no further than 1.3 to 1 as we approached the ends of the band. He was, however, a little nonplussed by my insistance on taking the reading with the meter fitted at the antenna end of the cable, until Iexplained that this was the only point from which we could achieve a truly accurate reading, since any significant length of feeder between the antenna and the meter would lead to a distorted figure.

He was even more delighted when his first transmission was greeted with some surprise by a fellow breaker eager to tell him that instead of the expected three pounder he was now getting him on a good seven pounder. and didn't he know it was antisocial to use a burner? Subsequent transmissions proved that he was now able to receive and transmit a most acceptable signal level over a very much wider radius and pretty soon I was faced with all sorts of questions as to the likely effects of fitting a pre-amp to the antenna.

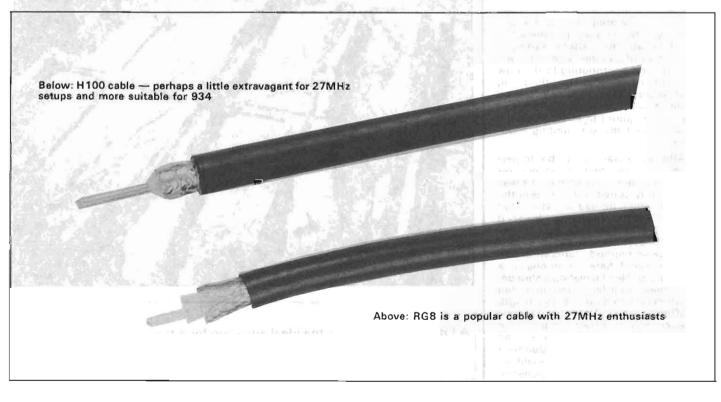
"What the dickens for?" asked I, "You are already doing far better than ever before, so what do you hope to achieve with a pre-amp?"

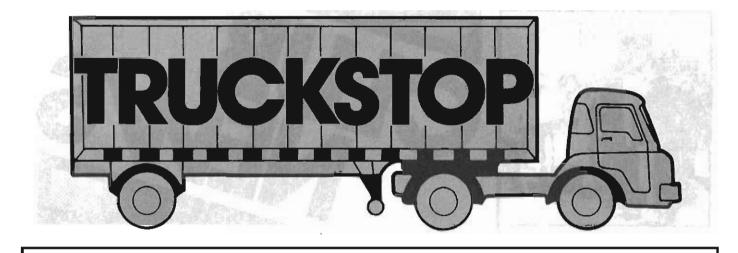
"Louder signals?" he asked, somewhat quizzically.

It is true that a pre-amp would increase the volume of incoming signals but, since it would have precisely the same effect on the accompanying noise it is of limited value, especially since it might also lead to your hearing signals too distant for you to work, which can be most frustrating.

On the question of buying a power mike, I left him to his own judgement. Power mikes really come into their own on amplitude modulation, where by affecting the modulation depth they can effectively increase the power of the outgoing signal. With frequency modulation he was perhaps best advised to invest in a compressor mike, which would clip the higher and lower audio frequencies fed to it and result in somewhat punchier audio at the other end, though it pays not to overdo compression, since this can cause severe audio distortion.

In the few short weeks since we spent a fruitful Saturday afternoon reinstalling his CB rig my friend's horizons have broadened considerably and he has, perhaps only temporarily, joined the army of devotees prepared to sit through the small hours in search of just that little extra DX. Now he is thinking of fitting a rig to his car and I have no doubt at all that he will make an excellent job of it.





Gismo is suspicious of official skulduggery

Μ

ost of the uses of the Chicken Box were already possible before CB was introduced to this country. For example, we used to

ask for directions at service stations etc and before we had channel 9 for emergency use, we used to drive like the clappers to the nearest telephone. Recently, however, an advantage only possible with CB was brought home to me.

I was driving eastwards along the Mike 62 from Bird City (Liverpool) towards Rainy City (Manchester) in thick, freezing fog. As fast as I cleared the mirror, it would freeze up again within 30 seconds. Speed restrictions were in force. I had my ears on and, in these conditions, my ears were well pinned back for 10-13s. I had passed the Mike 6 when I heard a 10-13 about a fender-bender near the Mike 63 junction, so I continued on, keeping a good ear out for further reports.

When nearing junction 11, I was told to leave the motorway as there was a four-mile tailback in front of me. I left the motorway and looked at a map parked on the roundabout above, I should add. I decided to go back to the Mike 6 and travel south to the Mike 56, and then eastbound on to Rainy City. I listened on the CB and heard that the tailback was by this time seven miles long but I had missed it. Without the CB, there was no other way I could have been warned. Even if I had the radio on, I would have been past the junction before I received the warning, as there is a large gap between junction 11 and the M63. I must have saved hours by missing that holdup, all thanks to CB.

Bad News

I recently received a piece of yellow printed matter sent out by the council. at Winchester to the effect that they are closing the coach park at Worthy Lane for trucks. The imminent opening of the M3 extension and the closure of a local cafe/hotel are the reasons listed. They go on to say that, while they appreciate it is needed, they do not want trucks going through their streets from the new junctions. They feel the responsibility lies with the D.O.T. or the County Council. I quote: 'The Council is very concerned at the unnecessary use of the town's narrow streets by heavy lorries, and drivers are asked to make alternative arrangements, to use alternative facilities at Southampton or at a service area.' Nice, isn't it? They almost say, 'There isn't anywhere else, so you have to use Winchester, so we will ban it.' I feel so strongly about this that I feel like mounting a campaign to deprive Winchester of lorries or trucks by organising a blockade. No truck parking? Right, no deliveries either!

More bad news, this time from Liverpool. Remember a few months ago, I told you about the new truckstop opening in Liverpool? Well, there has a been a further development, and a nasty one at that. Very few drivers have been staying at the truckstop, mainly because the owners do not let drivers sleep in their cabs and only want them to stay in the digs. Someone has found a way to stop trucks parking outside the two cafes along the dock front. Liverpool Council or the Dock Board have erected a superb eight-foot steel fence the distance where the trucks have been parking outside the cafes. The cost of this exercise must be enormous as the fence is good enough to keep out tanks. It looks good, in shiny, galvanised steel, but I would have thought that Liverpool, deprived as it is of essential services could have spent the money more wisely on its citizens than fencing in a dockfront area which was the safest place in Liverpool to part trucks. Next door to the cafes is a piece of empty land awaiting development. One cafe owner has tried hard to get the use of it for parking, but Liverpool Council say it is not available.

Good News and Bad

Whitwood truckstop have been awarded a shield (on the wall, as you enter the place) for 'the best food for a non-residential cafe' from a joint survey by the Routiers, Commercial Motors and Scania Trucks. The truckstop is still in its early days yet but, when Derv and a licensed bar are added later thisyear, it will take some beating. The food is superb, and showers, games, video and TV make the place really comfortable. It is about 400 yards off the M62 at Junction 31.

The owners, John and Stuart, have been trying to get permission for signs on the motorway to tell truckers of its existence. They have now a file, about a foot thick, of correspondence from the Department of Transport as to why they can't put up signs. Their local MP has taken it up with the Minister of State for Transport, but the excuses and reasons given are incredible. For instance, they say that no other truckstops are advertised on the motorways. Just down the road at Chesterfield (M1) there are signs up on the slab. There are also signs at Barton on the A1M near Scotch Corner. The real reason might be that Granada are building a service area on the M62/A1 junction, with facilities for 35 forries. I suspect that civil servants are protecting them from good old fair competition!

Monitor of the Month

My monitor on the one-nine this month is Mothercare on the M1 near Junction 38 up there in Yorkshire. Mothercare has five children, hence the handle, but she must be a glutton for work. As well as looking after the children, she monitors for 14 hours each weekday and, if that isn't enough, monitors channel 9 for the local React group at weekendsl You can hear Mothercare from the A1, M62, over Woodhead on the A628, and down as far as Sheffield on the M1. I would really like to inspect her setup. I reckon she must be on the top of a hill, because she really cracks out. Keep up the good work, Mothercare. We truckers really appreciate your superb 10-13s.

Keep your twigs a-wiggling, the girls a-giggling and your seatcover happyl Breaker Break... Gismo. (P.S. See you at Truckfest 85...)



News from clubs north, south, east and west



Zone 18 Breakers Club

I wish to inform you that a 934 group has been formed in October 1984 with 25 members, to date. I am the group chairman for the 934 group, northeast division. The aim of this group is to encourage 934MHz not only in the north-east but all over the UK and to represent the users of this frequency. We would also like to be recognised by the various bodies of radio communication in the DTI.

We have our own PO Box number and hope to have our own QSL cards soon. I have other projects for 1985 and should any 934 enthusiasts like any further information on membership just drop me a line enclosing your full name and address plus 17p stamp please.

Membership for the 934 group north-east is free but, should you wish to use our Box number, the fee per year is £5 per person.

Warren Lancaster (chairman), 2, Elizabeth Drive, Palmersville, Forest Hall, Newcastle, Tyne & Wear.

Scottish Association of CB Clubs

The Scottish Association of CB Clubs was formed on November 6th 1982 with the basic aim of uniting CB clubs in Scotland and to promote all aspects of CB radio. At present we represent 20 of the major clubs in Scotland. We are also affiliated to Natcolcibar.

As the misuse of CB radio is reaching epidemic proportions, we feel something must be done about it. The good work that CB radio does is being overshadowed by the bad side.

According to the terms of the licence, it is an offence to play music, use foul language or cause deliberate interference. The Home Office is doing nothing to enforce the terms of the licence. Justice must be seen to be done, with offenders receiving heavy fines and maximum publicity.

This Association demands that the Home Office abides by the terms of its own licence and clears up the destroyers of CB. If this is done, the Association will use all lawful methods to make the strongest protests through various methods. We fought long and hard to get CB radio legalised in Britain — the last thing we want is to have the service withdrawn because of serious misuse. We want CB radio to flourish in Britain, but it cannot do so while being choked with weeds — we demand that our licence fees be used to purchase weedkiller before CB is choked to death.

Rock A Jock (chairman), 73. Springboig Road, Glasgow.

Spartan CB Group

We are a recently formed CB pressure group. We believe that the majority of breakers are responsible and caring and also believe that breakers are due for a better deal. Our aims are to liaise with the DTI in the hope that they will realise that the majority of CB breakers are not a bunch of wallies.

In meeting with the DTI and talking over our mutual problems, we feel sure that much can be done to provide a CB service second to none. We want better conditions, less restrictions and, above all, value for licence revenue. At the same time we would like to see a tightening up of existing legislation regarding the Wireless and Telegraphy Act of 1949, including increased prosecution for licence evasion.

We invite other clubs throughout the country who have similar aims to ours to contact us.

F. Garrott (secretary), Spartan CB Group, P.O. Box 79, Gloucester.

CB International Essex

We are a new club formed on August 7th last year and have a nice, steady membership building up. The aim of the club is to promote goodwill to all other clubs and people on CB or not. We encourage anyone to come along to see us and have a chat. The club encourages disabled breakers as much as possible to take an active part in club interests and we are always ready to meet them and encourage them in any way.

The club has adopted a local home in the Clacton area with 22 handicapped children who visit the club on the last Tuesday of each month. We have recently started fund-raising for these children to enable us to buy them birthday. Easter and Christmas presents.

We would welcome any visitors to come along any Tuesday and have a chat with a view to joining. The club has excellent facilities at its disposal — darts, snooker, pool and disco.

Membership fees are as follows: children under 16 free (but must be accompanied by an adult); men (16-65) and women (16-60) 50p; men (65-70) and women (60-65) 25p. Men over 70 and women over 65 receive honorary membership. All members pay 20p per week subs.

Tango Papa (chairman), CB International Essex, c/o 14 Meadow Way, Jaywick Sands, Clacton on Sea, Essex.

Venture Club

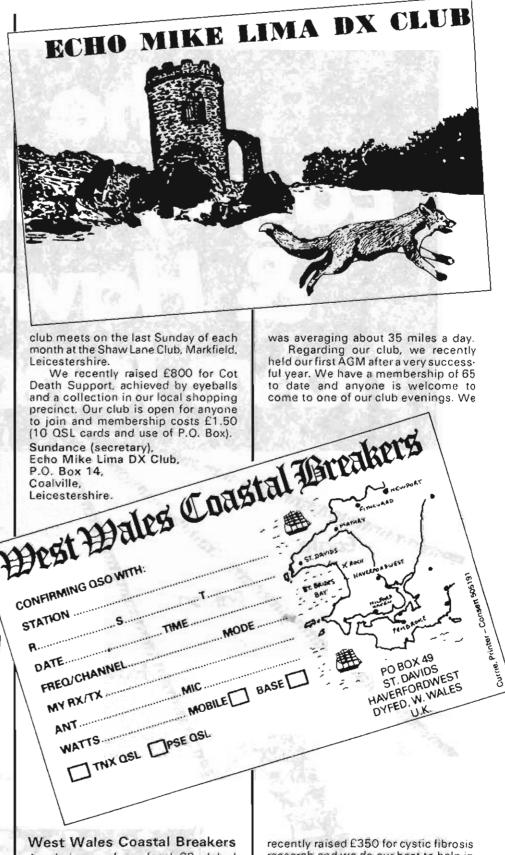
The Venture Club was formed in September 1983 and, at the moment, our membership is over 100. We meet on the second Wednesday of every month. At present, we are asking our members for ideas for club events as we like to encourage members to take part and show an interest in the running of the club.

Our adopted charity is the Rushton School for the Blind, for whom we will be holding a sponsored modulation very soon. Our membership is £5 and we have an age limit of 18 and over. Our eyeball fee is 15p, which includes a sandwich nosebag. We also have a raffle with a top prize of a rig.

Silver Grey Lady (secretary), Venture Club, White Hart, High Street, Corby, Northants.



Echo Mike Lima DX Club The Echo Mike Lima DX Club have been in existence for three years and we have 70 paid-up members. The



As chairman of our local CB cluh. I have been asked to write to you about Paul Ridgeway, who has been running around the coast of Great Britain doing a marathon in aid of multiple sclerosis, with the help of some breakers throughout south and west Wales who relayed messages so that he could be made welcome on route. We would appreciate it if you could thank all those who helped in passing on information during his short stay in Wales, as he recently raised £350 for cystic fibrosis research and we do our best to help in any charitable event we can. Our membership is £3 (single) and £5 (family). Each member receives 10 QSL cards, an eyeball badge and a rubber stamp.

Mystery Man (chairman), West Wales Coastal Breakers, CB Club Roch, P.O. Box 49, St Davids, West Wales.

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In Filly's village, it's a case of chips with everything. Will she finally succumb?

t's finally come, as I suppose it had to, eventually. Yes, the creeping modern plague has found it's way up our lanes, stolem across the fields, poked its sinister tentacles into our front rooms and the bedrooms of the kids...

The first inkling I had was one lazy Sunday afternoon, skipping through the channels to find a voice I knew. There was a lot of activity on the airwaves, it seemed to me, quite unusual for a Sunday with nothing much happening locally. Lot of kids around,

LADY BREAKERS

too, but I thought nothing much of it until I heard the dreaded word *computer.*

I must have misheard, I thought. No one would mention such a thing out here in the depths of the countryside, where the farmers still think wistfully of their ox-driven ploughs and automatic washing machines are an invention of the devil. I went back, trying to find the channel again.

There it was again. Computer. And, horrors, there was more. Bytes, I heard, random access memory, serial interface, Centronics compatible...

I put my hands over my ears, trying to block it out. Please don't let it be true. Computers had arrived, even here, just when I was beginning to think we were safe. And it was just as I had heard — it was the kids who were succumbing, starting to talk in a strange new language deliberately intended to sound like gibberish to the rest of us. Who was responsible for this outrage, I wondered. I listened to some more of that sinister conversation.

"... You can't swap the data because the ASCII id different", a young voice was explaining. "It's *incompatible*. You'll have to get your dad to buy one like mine, and mind it's got 32K *minimum*, OK?"

It's spreading like wildfire, I thought, appalled. Those already converted were now attempting to infect the innocent. I flicked through the channels and found some more voices, older voices this time.

"Well I thought I'd better take the plunge because we've got them at work now," said someone, sounding apologetic. And well you might, I thought. "I know, they're everywhere", said someone else, a woman. "I was beginning to feel like I lived on a different planet. You know? There they were, the kids and Sid, clustered round the thing, night after night. I'm going to take night classes, so I can join in too..."

I had a sudden terrible thought. Surely it was too much of a coincidence that all this had happened overnight, almost. New technology — witchcraft, they used to call this sort of thing, did you realise that? They knew a thing or two in those days — could hardly have afflicted everyone just like that, with no warning. I rushed out to the car, leapt in and drove down to the high street.

It was as I thought. There, standing

gaudy and arrogant where Mrs Bennett's Tea Shoppe had once been, was the source of the evil — a computer dealer. Innocent-looking machines lay in the window, so harmless. Alluring signs beckoned to the passerby - Don,t Miss Out, Get Your 32K Model B Here, Unbeatable Prices. Had it spread to the other shops? I hurried into the newsagent next door and searched the magazine shelves. There they were! Computer magazine after computer magazine, computer games, computer hobbies, computers and electronics. And people were buying them! A tot aged no more than six actually picked one up while I stood there aghast, flicked through it knowingly, and took it to the counter.

"Does this cover asynchronous communications?" he asked the newsagent. The newsagent, a man I had always thought of the highest integrity, nodded briefly and refused to meet my eyes. I left the soiled premises, determined to go to his nearest rival for my newspapers in future.

I listened to the CB as I drove wearily home. Soon I realised why everyone was talking about — about *it* — today; someone had had the temerity to start up a local user group, and that someone was a prominent breaker. Every breaker in the district who used one of those *things* was now a member, it seemed. Every Sunday, I thought shuddering, channel 29 would be full of chips ASCII, ports and Assembly language and modems.

What an end for a good channel. My husband was waiting for me when I got home. So he's heard the news too, I thought, climbing out of the car. I remembered everything he had ever said about computers and technology, and knew I had at least one ally.

"Filly, Filly!" he exclaimed, rushing to meet me. "Come and see what I bought yesterday. I didn't tell you, I wanted it to be a surprise. I've got it working, now, come and see ...

Yes, you've guessed. He, too, had succumbed. There was even a computer in my own home! But even as I stood there, looking at it bleeping, I thought Hey! Perhaps I can learn how to use it. Perhaps I'll be able to understand what they're all talking about. I won't be left out after all!

Tentatively, I said: "How much random access memory has it got . . .?"

our ma YOU'LL PAY ALITTLE MORE FOR ME-BUT YOU'D EXPECT THAT FOR BETTER



VOLTAGE REDUCER, MODEL BRS 25 logut voltage: 24 V DG (20 V min - 28 V max) - Output voltage: 13 S V - Output current: 2 A - Stability: 1%, volta-raind voltage and current - Protection: current immile: hermal overload black - Possibility of connection in parallel to multiply the available current - Dimensiona: 15 × 80 × 25 mm - Weight: 250 gr - 30/210 Alumnoum case RBP E14.15



STABILIZED POWER SUPPLY MOD. BRS 25 Input voltage: 220 V a. c 50 · 0 utput voltage: 13,8 V d c Current: 0-10 A. Stability: batter than 25 with mans variations of = 10% and bad waranters from 0 to 10 A. Protection: electronic with current tames Ripple: 1 mV with 10 A and Weight: 32 Xg Dimensions: 180 × 105 × 300 mm 1/40 V e.c supply weighted



CB ANTENNA SWITCH 3 DUTPUTS WITH DUMMY LOAD MOD. BRL 5" CHARLE" Impedance: 50 Dhm - Frequency stope: 0 \pm 50 MH/ Max power: 50 WHI TAM - Insantise fox: 0.2 eB - SWR: belier to 11.2 - Conceptors: 50 228 - Downy load: 50 Dhm. 5W max II; connects by makes of the frequencies for the SUBME SUBME



AHTENNA MATCHER MODEL BRL 15 Frequency range: 25-40 MHy - BF power: 100 W max Weight: 0.32 Kg - Dimensions: 178 × 55 × 55 mm RF power loss: under 5% 0.2 m. RRP E8 BD

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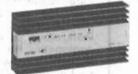
CB LINEAR AMPLIFIER MOD. BRL 35 Input voltage: 12 – 155 d.e. Max current: 445.A – Input power: 0.255 W R – Unitant power: maximum 50 W AM – Frequency: 26 – 31 MHz – Operation: AM – FM – SSB – Input SWR: better than 1.2, exercised digitstable – Dimensions: 120 + 73 × 40mm. Weight: Weight: RRP £35.75 D,3 Kg



LINEAR AMPLIFIER MOD. BIL. So Output power: 500 Watts AM methods and the input power: 0.5 wWAM. Input voltage: 200 V5 AHr. Frequency: 21 MHz Operation: AM-SSB FM-Input SWI better than 1,3, internally adjustable instrument: and 5 meblie coll mistrument: Output and SWR indicate, atternally liphted - Corbotis: STAVO BY, AM-SSB, out up there switching 250/500 W, SWR indicate, atternally information of the set 5 x ELSP common and cometciel Cooling, that set 5 x ELSP common and cometciel Cooling that set 5 x ELSP common and cometciel Cooling that set 5 x ELSP common and cometciel Cooling that set 5 x ELSP common and cometciel Cooling that set 5 x ELSP common and cometciel Cooling that set 5 x ELSP common and cometciel Cooling that set 5 x ELSP common and cometciel Cooling that set 5 x ELSP common and cometciel Cooling that set 5 x ELSP common and cometciel Cooling that set 5 x ELSP common and cometciel Cooling that set 5 x ELSP common and cometciel Cooling that set 5 x ELSP common and common and that set 5 x ELSP common and common and that set 5 x ELSP common and common and that s



UNEAR AMPLIFIER MOD. BRL 210 Output power - 160 Watts AM maximum, depending on the input power - Input power: 0.5 - 10 Watt AM, 1 -20 Watt PEP SED Input velocities: 220 VIS 017 -Frequency: 23 Mills: Operation: AM, -SSB - FM Output impedence: 52 OHA - Input impedence: 52 OHA - Input SWR: botter than 1.3, in analy adjust tak-lisstimient: on onsul power induces and mode an operander of the second second second second second Protection mutbe: EL-33 Dimensions: 174 × 100 × S25 mm. Weight 4 KG It is second second second Representation and the second se



CB LINEAR AMPLIFIER MOD. BRL 40 Input voltage: 12 – 15 V d.c. Misk surrent: 7 A - Input power: 0.2 S W IF - Output power: mannum: 75 WAM - Frequency: 26 – 20 M/H - Operation: AM - SSB Input SWR: botter than 1.2, enternally educatable Ofmensions: 150 × 75 × 40 mm. Weight 0.19 Kp RRP £40.66

STABILIZEO POIVER SUPPLY MDD. 885 27 Input voltage: 720 V as 5 50% - Output voltago: 13.8 V de Current S Annas Stability: better than 21% with name variations of 10% or load variations from 0 to 3A-Protection: better one with output voltage in the 10 part Protection: better one with output voltage in the 10 part Veight 1: 5K (240 V as supply available # MP 14.26

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CO LINEAR AMPLIFIER MOD. BRL 31 Input voltage: 12 \pm 15 V d c . Max current: 2 \pm 2.8 A. Input power: 0.2 5 W RF . Output power: maximum 28 WAM. Frequency: 26 \pm 30 MHz. Operation: AM. FM SSB - Input SYR: better than 1.3, externally adjustable. Dimensions: 120 \times 50 \times 40 mm. Weight: 0.2 Kg Pt 16.16



DIGITAL FREQUENCYMETER MOD. BAI stop Disaction antion behveren RF spurce ind antipane-Disaction of the stop of the spurce ind antipane-Disaction of the stop of the spurce ind antipane-tion of the spurce of the spurce ind antipane-power: 100 W. Range of traguancy: 10-150 MHz. Dimensions: (LHP) 122-38 × 162 mm. Weight: 2450, Bar SSLSS Dimensions: (LHP) 122-38 × 162 mm. Weight: 2450, Bar SSLSS

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David Shepherdson brings us more news from the QSL world

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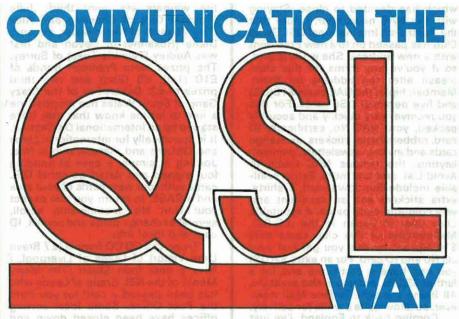
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hare sittle update of merciop Polit, the top "read Dagen Clubs are in third place. The France UK clubs are in third place. The Cury Sark of London, and just in front is first phone is the Club. Whitekey out of room once again, so fill ium this upp rome last nemes and ther list of the "withcoming event, which many clubs and Cluers have and there list of the yriave frund it to be Storting of this secont with lan (Nohihawk) of Karulai, Dolf of Holland Jak Karulai, Withskie Gil of Holland Jak



d like to start off this time by just irving to clear up one or two points over which some people seem to be a little confused. First of all, I have nothing whatsoever to do with the Club News column elsewhere in this mag, and secondly, I do wish people would stop writing to me and my XYL. I'm single (and avail-able . . .)! Right, a few names and then some news which has come my way recently. First out of the bag comes Michael (The Condor) of Larne, NI, who writes asking for a mention and praising the Galaxy Club of Brighouse, a card and greetings from Tony (Mad Max) of Inverness who swaps 100% and can also supply info on a newish club, the Jacobite Warriors. I have no other info on this club except that Tony is the Director. Paul (Ant) drops a line from Exeter with a few Currie cards, as do Robert (Hot-Rod) and Teresa (Foxy Lady) of County Down with a note saying that they both QSL 100% all over the world and look forward to receiving yours. Jack Wells of Maldon writes with some info and a cry for help about a UK club. He sent off for a stamp from a club and so far (10 weeks) has not had his stamp, a reply to his letters or his money back. Well, Jack is not the only one to write about this club. I have written to this club myself to try to find out what is going on but, so far, no luck. If you're reading this Nige, how about a reply?

Okay, Club News time, a new address for the Tripe City Breakers of Burnley. Martin (TCB 001) has moved house and is now running the club by himself and asks if you have any TCB invites would you be kind enough to alter the address on them please. Earlier in the year, I quoted from a letter from Jorgen Hansen of the Toucan Club fame. Well, Jorgen will be here in the UK soon on his way through to Denmark, so if you wish to join his excellent club, allow a little extra time for the return of the package. Also, because of problems he has told me about, it is not advisable to send letters etc to him Surface Mail. If you send cash to join or for club items, for Coming hack to England, I've just

your own sake, register itl I know this costs an extra £1.10, but otherwise you do risk losing your 15 dollars. For your money, you do get a very good package, which is sent by Airmail and includes your unit no, ID card, wall certificate, unmounted stamp, map post card of Venezuela, 10 exchange cards and invites, club stickers and a newsletter. Extras of this excellent and 100% genuine club include club cards and a cloth patch.

In these pages I have often mentioned QSL card printers like Des Currie of Consett, POMA of Belgium (contact via rep, Ray) and said that no other printer lets me know anything about themselves. Well, I've had a letter passed to me from Don (Vanguard) of "D'Zine of Preston" who has written to inform me of their services. What started as a cottage industry early last year has now turned into a full time job. In just over a year, Don and his wife have designed and printed over 400 different QSL and eyeball cards. For prices and sample etc, please contact Don direct enclosing the ever useful SASE. Also, I see that C.D. Jones now offers a QSL card printing service. Unfortunately, Chris is a oneman business who started with OSI stamps on a 48-hour turnaround basis, and trade has picked up so much that he is working from dawn to dusk to try to catch up, but it is taking him quite a while to fill all your orders and he does ask us to bear with him.

I've had a letter from Andy of the excellent Norway Amateurs Club with some rather surprising news. Who remembers the Big Ben Club when it was run by Jim (The Duke) who used to write a rival column? Well, Jim sold the club to Colin, and Colin has now decided to finish with the Big Ben. Well, I've had words with Colin, and I have taken over the Big Ben Club. I'll be looking at the package and items and will be giving full details of the new package in next month's column, so if you have any forms for this club, please alter them to my address (Dragonmaster One), thanks. Similar news from the Flower o' Scotland Club

which has decided to close. Staying with the NAC newsletter, I note that the Australian International QSL Swap Club has passed on to a new President with a new address. She is Chris Bird, so if you've any forms for this club, please alter the address on them. Membership of the NAC costs \$18(US) and five personal QSL cards. For this you receive, very quickly and securely packed, your NAC No, certificate, ID card, rubber stamp, stickers, exchange cards and invites, newsletters, pennant, keyring, the famous NAC Clubs to Avoid List, and lots more. Extras available include Sundown card, T-shirts, extra stickers and an excellent and very colourful cloth patch. A reputable Club over in Japan is the J.Q.S.C. Membership of this club costs only \$1(US), but for this you get just your JQ No and ID card. For an extra \$2(US) you can have a certificate and for a further \$3(US), a stamp is also available. All items are sent Surface Mail however, so allow quite a while for delivery.

Coming back to England, I've just received the results of the Atlantic Breakers QSL Club's 'Hand Coloured QSL Card' competition. The response to this competition was, to say the least, rather poorl There was a 25p

the winners are: joint third: Julie (Country Girl) of Cheshire and Alex (The Wizard) of Manchester, second; Diane (Roxanne) of Devon and first was Audrey (Twinkle Toes) of Surrey. The prizes were Premium Bonds of £10 (1st), £5 (2nd) and two third prizes of £2. Desert Fox of the Crazy Gang of South Wales has dropped me a line to let me know that they have started up an International DX Section. It is specifically for international clubs and QSLer's and membership is free. Joining is simply a case of sending four signed and dated personal QSL cards with four view cards of your area and a SASE. In return you can expect your Unit No, membership scroll, several exchange cards and scrolls, ID card and local info.

Okay, call CQ CQ Dennis (27 Bravo Lima Victor) of Leeds of Liverpool. I have a note from Stuart (The Merry Monk) of the NEL Group of Leeds who has been passed a card for you from the Post Office. Some local sorting offices have been closed down and Stuart got 'lumbered' with a pile of 'Lost QSL Mail'. Stuart has managed to pass on all except this one, so if you're out there Dennis, drop Stuart a line please.

where in this map, and secondly, I do

swops spoons, post cards and key rings. Roger (Darkover One) of Stourbridge writes in with an apology for any delays that people may have had while waiting for a return from him and, as for the symbol on your card Roger, I haven't the foggiestl Whilst talking about delays, if you send letters or cards to me via the mag, it does take a while for me to get them.

News from Ray (Poma Rep for the UK) of the latest prices for Poma FCC cards. They are now £53 per 1000 for a new design, and £38 for 1000 reprints. If you are interested in a FCC card by Poma, then drop Ray a line, but don't forget a SASE for his reply.

A bit of news from the Firebird QSL Club of Brighton is that they have three different club stamps for the months of March and April only, at £2.50 each. Also, a full colour cloth patch is available for £2 as are Poma Club cards. Membership costs £8, for which you get a massive bundle which I haven't room to do justice to here, but runs to over 17 items! Or, if times are a little hard, then a mini-pack is available for £3 with the exception of a rubber stamp and the cloth patch.

As promised for several months,

P.O. Box 14, Brighouse, West Yorkshire, HD6 2SE. 3 Tarn Villas, Cowpasture Rd,

likley, W. Yorks, LS29 8RH.

TASLOW	and of Latin Wi,	ulu Whiskey Int' Dragonrider 1 (Via Club)
Atlantic Breakers Club Australian Int' Black Diamond (Meeting) The Crazy Gang International Cutty Sark QSL Club	 Priory Road, Bowden. Cheshire, WA14 3BP 151 Wilson Street, Carrington 2294, N.S.W., Australia. P.O. Box 16, Caerphilly. Mid-Glam, S. Wales, CF8 2XF. P.O. Box 10, Caerphilly, S. Wales, CF8 1XX. 47 Gurdon Road, Charlton, London, SE7 7RP. P.O. Box 9, Brighton, Sussex. P.O. Box 14, Brighouse, W. 	Please note, new addre OSLer Addresses Hot Rod & Foxy Lady Marvis Steele (Crazy Al Robert (Happy Duck) Bill (Gambler) Tony (Mad Max)
Firebird CSL Stor Galaxy Radio Group Great British QSL DX Club Japan QSL Swap Club (JQ N.E.L. Group Norway Amateurs' Club Romeo Delta X-Ray Sea Dragon DX QSL Club 'Toucan Int' QSL Club	Yorkshife, Consett, Co Dumani, DH8 8NG. SC) P.O. Box 46, Atami 413, Japan. P.O. Box 46, Atami 413, Japan. P.O. Box CR10, Leeds, West Yorkshife, LS7 3DB. Box 353B. N-4001 Tjensvoll, Norway. 10 Wallace Street, Rutherglen, Glasgow, Scotland. P.O. Box 2, Sheringham, Norfolk, NR26 8TY. P.O. Box 1500, Caracas 1010-A, Venezueta, S, America	Brian (Strongbow) Roger (Darkover One Michael (The Condo Ian (Nighthawk) Dave (Tennessee)
Tripe City Breakers	Buvniey, tearburgen book	w for some more

entry fee which was donated to the Ghost Rider Appeal so it was in a good cause and the amazing number of entries resulted in £4.25 being donated! Yes, only 17 cards were entered, rather poor as all the people concerned with this competition would say. Anyway, even so, the judging of the cards was difficult as they were all very good, but

Okay, time now for some more names from the pile covering most of my desk, floor and shelves. If you would like to get a mention, then please drop me a line, with a card or two of yours and I'll see what can be done. If you want a reply, then please do enclose return postage. It will help. Right, Brian (Strongbow) of Liverpool is first up with a large colourful card, a pile from John (Cactus Man) of Stockton who not only QSLs but collects and

SLer Addresses:t Rod & Foxy Lady arvis Steele (Crazy Annie) 1920 Avenue P, Lubbock, Texas 79405, USA. obert (Happy Duck) III (Gambler) ony (Mad Max) Brian (Strongbow) Roger (Darkover One) Michael (The Condor) lan (Nighthawk) Dave (Tennessee) Wim ("Dolf")

ease note, new address for club P.O. Box 13, Newtownards, Co Down, Northern Ireland. 140 Branshill Park, Sauchie, Alloa, Clack'shire, Scotland. 225 Harrowby Lane, Grantham, NG31 9HG, UK. P.O. Box 27, Inverness, 8 Mirfield Close, Halewood. Liverpool, L26 9XP, UK. 1 Hungary Hill, Stambermill, Stourbridge, West Midlands. MW 11, P.O. Box 20, Larne, Co Antrim, Northern Ireland. 2 Well Heads Lane. Sedgewick, Nr Kendal, Cumbria, LA8 OJS. 58 Clark Avenue, Hove, Sussex, UK. Remisestraat 35, NL-2225 TH Katwijk a/Zee, Holland.

> here's the update of the Club Poll. The top three UK clubs are, in third place, The Sea Dragon Club, in second place, the Cutty Sark of London, and just in front, in first place is the Zulu Whiskey Club of Brighouse. Well, I'm almost out of room once again, so I'll run through some last names and then list the forthcoming events which many clubs and QSLers have said how helpful they have found it to be. Starting off this section with Ian (Nighthawk) of Kendal, 'Dolf' of Holland, Jack (Whiskey Romeo 67) of New York and



tion Centre, Caerphilly, there is the 2nd Annual Eyeball of the Black





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Brian Wright finds a good performance antenna at a reasonable

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ince the UK antenna regulations have been relaxed allowing the use of centreloaded antennas, the general performance of aerials that we have tested

certainly seems to have improved. This therefore confirms, in practice, the theory that centre-loaded antennas are usually more efficient than their base-loaded counterparts. However, this is not always the case as a glance through your back issues of Citizens' Band will tell you. In fact, many breakers prefer base-loaded antennas for mobile use as the weight of a coil halfway up the whip can make the whip sway about considerably, especially when travelling over an uneven road. Most manufacturers have tried to overcome this problem by having a slightly thicker rod for the lower half of the whip, this certainly helps to overcome the problem but the weight of the coil can still cause the antenna to sway excessively unless the coil assembly is very light. It was therefore interesting to test the Hembro Nimrod Mk1 this month as this has a very thick lower whip which hardly bends at all in use.

The Nimrod is supplied in the usual plastic sleeve with a cardboard backing and no instructions. The base mounting is a large hexagonal nut with the normal %" UNF thread protruding, which is intended to fit any of the popular methods of mounting including most magmounts. These vehicle mounts must be purchased separately if you don't already have one.

The lower whip, which is 6mm diameter, is threaded at both ends and screws into the hexagonal base fitting and into the lower half of the coil, instead of being held in the usual manner with a grubscrew. The coil assembly itself is only 12mm diameter and 120mm long and is therefore relatively small and lightweight. The upper half of the whip is only 2mm diameter which is about normal for the upper whip on this type of antenna. The overall length of the whole assembly is approximately 1.37 metres long and the coil is central. Both whips are of ground stainless, steel and the upper one has a small metal tip pressed on the top and is fitted into a hole in the coil assembly and held by the normal grubscrew.

When mounted securely on the vehicle, the Nimrod is very stable mechanically as it is only the 620mm long upper whip that bends noticeably when subjected to rough treatment. This, therefore, overcomes one of the main problems of centre-loaded mobile antennas. It could be argued that the additional weight of the 6mm diameter lower whip requires a firm mounting to the vehicle, but this should be no problem using one of the standard commercial mounts. We tested the Nimrod on one of these mounts and a large magmount with no problems.

The SWR on the Nimrod as supplied was 1.1:1 on channel 1 rising to 1.3:1 on channel 40 and therefore required shortening slightly. However, as the SWR was quite impressive as supplied, we decided to test the Nimrod without making any adjustment, as this antenna could genuinely be called pre-tuned, a feature that is sadly lacking with many antennas, especially mobiles.

Setting out on test, it soon became obvious that the Nimrod Mk1 was going to perform fairly well, as signals were well up in the top performance

"A weil-made antenna using top quality materials"

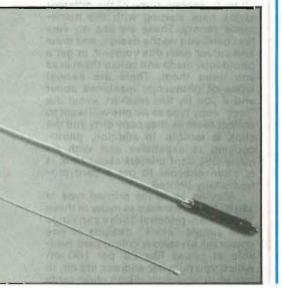


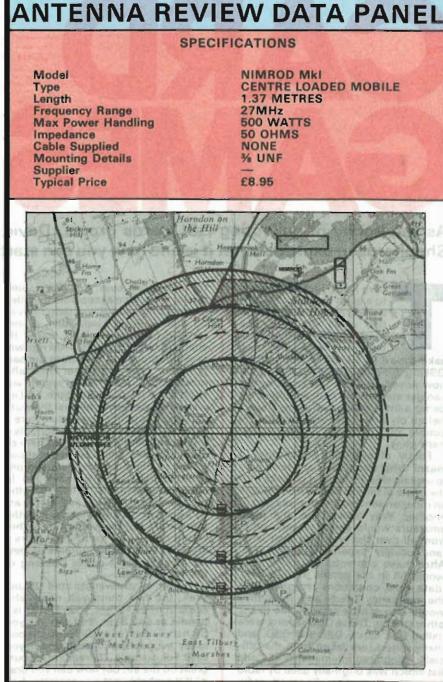
class right from the start. In fact, good signals were maintained throughout the test, with only momentary fading at the outer limits of the route when passing large obstructions. Copies were clear and readable in both directions and when, on two occasions, other breakers came on our channel, we had no problem in maintaining contact.

Summing up then, we consider the Nimrod Mk1 to be a well-made antenna using top quality materials. The 6mm diameter lower whip providing adequate strength to prevent excessive swaying when mobile and being pretuned is a pleasure to install. The Nimrod, being about 1.37 metres long, was tested on the vehicle boot as we normally test all medium-to-large antennas in this position, but being of medium length and robust construction is quite suitable for roof-mounting where it should perform even better. A similar antenna for performance

that we have tested would be the Rebel Raider.

We would like to thank TV Radio Aerial Services of London Road, Apsley, Hemel Hempstead who supplied the test sample and who self the Nimrod Mk1 for £8.95, which must be good value for one of the top antennas we have tested.





REVIEW VERDICT

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

The Tests

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



As the hobby of collecting QSL cards grows, David Shepherdson explains what it is and how you can start

here I was, looking forward to a quiet evening at home, writing an overdue letter or two when the telephone rang. It was the Editor of this excellent magazine

asking me if I could do an article about OSLing, from how it began through to how anyone new to this great hobby can get started. So, with apologies for being a little vague over dates (it was before my timel) and with thanks to a couple of friends for their support, here goes.

Firstly of all, QSL. What does it mean? What does QSL stand for? To try to explain this, I'll have to go back into the mists of time to before OSLing was an independent hobby, but was part of another. Way back when, the radio amateurs would speak to each other from all over the world on their large (and usually expensive) radio sets. After these contacts, or QSO's, they would fill in the details in their logs, (date, time, conditions of signal, even the frequency used) and then they would also send a copy of this to the other station. These QSO reports were called QSL cards. QSL and QSO, and many others, are taken from the officially recognised International 'Q Code list which was originally used by radio amateurs and other licensed radio operators. Nowadays, a few of these 'Q' codes are used by QSLers. Table 1 shows the 40 or so 'Q' codes that apply to radio useage, while Table 2 gives those used most often in QSLing. As you can see, each 'Q' Code is in fact capable of being either a question or answer depending on how you use it.

In these early days, the QSL card was simply a confirmation of contact with the sending station's callsign/ number and address on it, with of course, all the details of the QSO. After a while, these cards changed to become more decorative, more than just confirmation of contacts, but items worth collecting for themselves! Then, with the growth of CB in America and Europe and the use of the high power "burners" (amplifiers) which increased the range of contacts for the AM CBer, the QSL cards of the radio amateurs were looked upon with envy. So, in time QSL cards grew to be part of the

CB scene all over the world, until finally, it became acceptable to collect these cards even if you didn't have a rig (radio) of any kind. Then, at long last, CB came to England, first in the shape of those "naughty" AM rigs with their hundreds of channels in the back of lorries' cabs and so on. Then, after much campaigning, an FM system was allowed by HMG. By this time, QSLing was well established all over the world and was gathering momentum here in the UK. There are two main schools of thought about CB QSL cards. There are those who feel that QSL cards should be left to the radio amateurs and only used as the 'Q' code says i.e. for confirming contacts. While the other groups classes QSLing as a hobby and as a way of making friends. Whether there is any right or wrong side to this I would not like to say. Surely there is enough room for both points of view. For myself, well I guess I belong on the second side.

Right, so you want to start QSLing. Well, the first thing you need, after some money to get your cards, is a handle or Call Sign. You can use your CB handle but for a QSL card it should really suggest an illustration for your card. For example, "Mirage" may sound great on the air, but how can you draw it? (I'll probably get a nasty letter from "Mirage" now, ah well.) Some ideas for your handle could come from your work, hobbies, or TV or pop favourites, the list is pretty well endless. So, you've picked your handle, what now? Now comes one of the hardest parts: can you draw it? If not, then you could ask a friend who can, or see an artist, or just contact a printer. The thing you don't do is nip down to you local photocopy shop and get some paper copies run off. Why? Well this hobby is QSL card swopping and collecting. Many people, especially overseas, will not accept paper QSLs. I am not knocking these, I just want to point this out to you. The thing is to get your design drawn up, and then consider what type of card you want. Before 1 list some of the different types available, let me just tell you of my own experiences when I started (many years ago). I'd picked my handle (I'm not saying what it was, I'm still trying to

live it down!), drawn a rough sketch, with my design in the centre of this card, placed my address clearly on it (very importantl) and a few other details like a set of picture frames with the numbers and a car in them. The numbers? There are numbers and there are numbers. A few examples of the more common ones are 73's and 88's (or 3's and 8's) which mean "love and kisses", so watch who you say them tol 51's 55's and various others mean "best wishes" and the like. I then went to a local firm who quoted £6 for a hundred. After this I found another firm who did them at £40 a thousand. Just black on white card copies. Not printed mind you, only photocopied and at that pricel At this time, you must remember that QSLing was in its infancy in the UK and there were very few firms who would specialise in QSL card work. Happily this has now changed as there are many QSL card printers, and I'll give examples a little later on. Finally, I managed to find a mail order firm who specialised in QSL cards. I contacted them and received my first printed card. Actually, this was a club card with my details printed on and I used it mainly as a "floater". Floaters are the additional cards you should use to send to people who will then pass them out with their swops and in this way, your cards start to circulate.

Since then, as many people will know, I started my own club and have had many thousands of cards from this printer. I've tried a couple of other printers for different cards but for the largest and most regular orders, I've stayed with this original printer. As I said earlier, if you don't feel too keen about designing your own card, then I do suggest asking the printer of your choice if he has an artist who can do it for you. Most printers do have at least one and can probably help arrange this.

Variety

There are many different types of QSL cards about these days, ranging from the individual home-made variety, up to the full-colour collector series. I'll try to explain some of the different styles here starting with the homemade variety. These are like my very first card; you do the design, and draw and colour each one yourself, or get a photocopy made and colour them in as you need them. There are several types of photocopy machines about and if you try this method, avoid the "wet" copy type as no one will want to collect them as they copy dirty and the stink is terrible. In addition, photocopying is expensive and with so many QSL card printers about now, it is often cheaper to get a card professionally printed.

Moving on to the printed type of cards, again there are as many of these as there are printers! These can range from simple "stock" designs of one colour ink on various colour card available at prices like £2 per 100 on which you put your address etc on, to two or three-colour ink on gloss cards at quite a bit more! Some printers use lithography machines, while others use a typewriter to set up a card and so on. Deciding on the type of design you want can help you to choose the printer. One way of getting some ideas of the different types of these is to look through the QSL cards shown most months in this magazine, or to ask a local QSLer where he gets his printed if his design and style appeals to you. If you are unsure if you have any local QSLers, you could try giving them a shout on a rig sometime. They will probably be very happy to help.

Cartoon

Then, there are the "cartoon type" cards. Now, when I say cartoon type, I don't mean a Bugs Bunny effect or whatever, it's just that I'm not quite sure what category these would fall into. The designs are very well printed, but not as line drawings, nor are they eight or nine-colour types. As a rule, they are usually on gloss card, with one background colour and one or two other colours available for the sketch. There are so many printers in the States and Europe that do this type, it is impossible to even guess at the prices. Also, there is a Belgian printer who does the cartoon type in full colour, which some people feel rival POMA and the like: Next comes the "gold-blocked" type. Now, as far as I know these are printed only in the UK and by just a couple of firms. The last price I heard was in the region of £6 per hundred, but many of these card holders feel that the higher price is worth it. These cards come in several colours (of card) and with either gold or silver foil for the design, These cards are, I believe, made with a heat treatment of some kind. Highly collectable, especially the later designs.

Finally in this roundup of card types, the FCC Cards, or Full Colour Collector Series. I think that most people agree that these are the top card that you can get, and there are many different series of these. In Europe there are POMA, DB, BBM etc. In America the main two seem to be Sundown and Little Queen series. The prices vary tremendously, but as an example, one thousand POMA cards printed and delivered here in the UK costs (at present) £53 for a new design. Now, collecting these cards is slightly different to other types of cards in that they are Collector Series and other holders of the same series will want several of our cards for their collections, usually blank, i.e. not signed or dated. If you should decide to go for one of these series at any time, be prepared to get letters like "Please send 25 (or 50) of your card number . ./. and I will send you 25 (50) of mine." They are part of a series which people collect, before they are QSL cards in the usual sense. As you see, a new design is highly desirable and sought after. Obviously, there are good printers and bad printers, just as there are good and bad QSL clubs. One source here in the UK of some of the recommendable

clubs and printers etc is to keep reading "Communication the QSL Way" elsewhere in this very magazine each month.

Okay, so you've now received your cards from the printer and you want to start to collect other people's cards and swopping with yours. How do you go about this? Well, to start with you should have a look through the QSL pages as I do try to give a mention only to clubs which are genuine, though of course I cannot list all of these at once. There are just too manyl Looking through the lists you should have noticed that there are two main types of QSL club here in the UK; paving clubs and free membership clubs. With the first you pay for your membership number, but you also receive (as a rule) a club stamp, some club cards and in the details asked for, usually your name, address and handle. You send the form with the correct amount of OSL cards asked for plus any money required by the club or, if it is a free membership, a suitable stamped addressed envelope for the return of your package. Now one very important point is that you cards are your cards and should each show your return address on them, otherwise how do you expect to get any replies? A few clubs do operate a "mail-forward" service, but as a rule, only when a supply of SAE's are provided by you! If you decided on stock cards, ie: those without your address and details printed on, then rather than write your address onto each, I do suggest you contact a label printing firm who can do a thousand labels for about £2.50. Much



Sundown FCC

quite a bit more too. With the free membership clubs, your number is free for the cost of postage, but club cards and club stamps are usually available as optional extras.

To join any QSL club is usually quite simple but I'll run through it using, as an example only, the XYZ Club. As far as I know, there is not any club called XYZI Right, you've either obtained a form for the club, or taken the details from the magazine, you fill 121 If you just send one out don

easier to read and much neater too. One other point about joining a club: you should really use personal cards as against either stock cards or, even worse, another club's cards. Some clubs do not mind this practice, but others do specify personal cards and consider it an insult if you join using other clubs' cards to join them. Club cards are perfectly acceptable as floaters or to fill out you QSL package when used with your own cards, as are indeed stock cards.

Until you get established and "get the hang of it", I do really recommend that you stick to joining a few of the UK clubs before trying for the overseas ones as they do have their own special requirements. Anyway, you've sent off you cards etc to a club, and after a short wait (which varies between clubs!) you finally get your first club package through the slot in the door, although many are too big for the average letter boxl In it you should have found a bundle of mixed cards, or floaters. What you should do with these is, for each one, fill out an envelope with the address as on the card, fill out one of your cards to the name on the card, date and sign it. Also it is nice if you can put a short personal message on and if possible where you got either their name or card from, for example, via XYZ Club or via CB Magazine, that sort of thing. Then date and sign four or five of your cards, make them out to "QSL Friend" as your floaters and put these together with your main card in the envelope ready to send out. If at all possible, try to include a local interest leaflet from your area. These are available free from your local Tourist Board offices or library and will be of interest to many people. Do this for all the cards you receive and that's it you have started on the road to successful QSLing.

Clubs

Now, don't rest on your laurels there, join a few more QSL clubs, get yourself known in the QSL world then, when you have the hang of it, think about joining some of the overseas clubs. Now for these, I do have a few special hints. Most will only accept cash, some of these will accept UK sterling, but not too many, the majority prefer US dollars. When sending to these, pack your money between two of your cards safely, and send it airmail. For your own protection, I do recommend Registered Post for these, it costs an extra £1.10, but if it gets lost, you do have some comeback. If sending to Belgium, never put the person's/ club's name on the envelope, use their address only! If you don't do this the chances are neither you or they will ever see that letter again:

There is a "Code of Conduct" with QSLing. It isn't a hard and fast ruling of what is expected, it is more a case of common sense and good manners.

 If you receive five or six cards, don't just send one backl

(2) If you just send one out, don't expect very much back!

(3) If you use Sunface Mail, don't expect a quick reply.

(4) When QSLing, always try to put on the card where you received their name or card from.

(5) Use your club stamp(s) on your cards, especially if the other person is also a member of that club.

(6) When you receive some floaters from other people, put one or two of

them into your package, make it a package you would like to receive.

Now, while on the subject of packages, please do not forget that a first or second class stamp allows for 60 grams of weight! When you start sending large packages this is soon passed, so check your packet's weight before posting and add any extra postage needed. Otherwise your new friend will be rather upset when the postman insists on payment before delivery! The 60 grams mentioned of course only applies to the UK. For Europe, the present cost is 22p for 20 grams, and for Airmail the costs *start* at 29p for only 10 grams.

Pack

To go back to your first club pack, looking through it you should also expect to find a few invitations to other clubs. Most clubs will only pass on forms for clubs which they feel to be genuine so you should be safe in applying to these. If you wish to check that a club is still being run, or like the sound of a club mentioned either by a fellow QSLer or in this magazine, drop them a line asking for an up-to-date form but do remember to enclose return postage. In the UK, a suitable stamp is usually enough, but for an overseas club, two IRC's are required. The IRC's which are the overseas equivalent of a SAE are available from your local Post Office. Return postage must be sent to overseas clubs or they will not reply. If they don't reply any-

way, you will have lost 70p or so, but that is much better than £10 to £15I In addition you will have a small bundle of application forms for the club you joined. With these you are asked to pass them along as you QSL as you will hopefully be willing to recommend it to others. Remember, you do have a few sources of information where you can ask about a club you may be thinking of joining. These are the club(s) you are already a member of, and of course you can write to me, either via this magazine or direct. (My address is given each month at the end of the QSL column.) Whichever method you choose, do enclose return postage to help get a reply back. One important thing I do ask you to do is make sure that each of your cards has your address on it, and also put your return address on the envelopel This is so that in case of problems like someone has moved, or the address is wrong anyway, the Post Office do not have to open your letter, thus risking loss of the contents to find out who it should go back to. I have a special sticky label with my details on which I put on to all my envelopes. It's well worth it, and in case of problems, that letter will come back much quicker!

Friends

In addition to just joining QSL clubs as mentioned in this magazine, don't forget that the list of names are

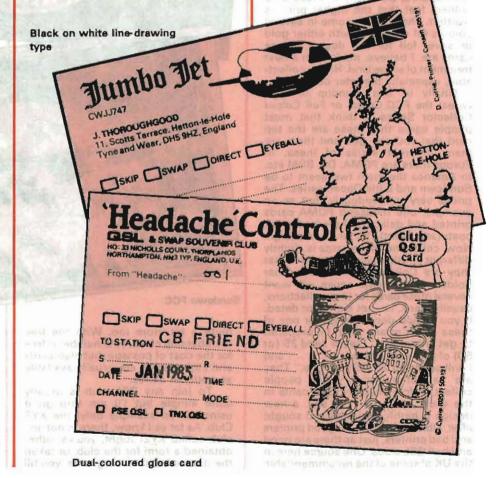


TABLE 1

- **QRA** What is the name of your station? The name of my station is . . .
- **QRB** How far approximately are you from my station? I am approximately ... Km
- QRG Will you tell me my exact frequency? Your exact frequency is ... kHz (or MHz)
- **QRH** Does my frequency vary? Your frequency varies.
- QRI How is the tone of my transmission? The tone of your transmission is .
- **QRK** What is the intelligibility of my signals? Your intelligibility is . .
- QRL. Are you busy? I am busy, please do not interfere.
- **QRM** Are you being interfered with? I am being interfered with.
- QRN Are you troubled by static? I am being troubled by static.
- QRO Shall I increase transmitter power? Increase transmitter power.
- **QRP** Shall I decrease transmitter power? Decrease transmitter power.
- QRQ Shall I send faster? Send faster.
- **QRR** Are you ready for automatic operation? I am ready for automatic operation.
- QRS Shall I send more slowly? Send more slowly (.... words per minute).
- QRT Shall | stop sending? Stop sending.
- QRU Have you anything for me? I have nothing for you.
- QRV Are you ready? I am ready.
- QRW Shall I inform that you are calling on ... kHz? Please inform that I am calling on . kHz.
- QRX When will you call me again? I will call again at . . . hours on , kHz.
- QRZ Who is calling me? You are being called by on ... kHz. QSA What is the strength of my
- signals? The strength of your signals is . . QSB Are my signals fading? Your
- signals are fading.
- QSD Is my keying defective? Your keying is defective.
- QSI I have been unable to break in on your transmission or Will you inform that I have been unable to break in on his transmission on . . . kHz.

- QSK Can you hear me between your signals and if so can I break in on your transmission? I can hear you between my signals, break in on my transmission.
- QSL Can you acknowledge receipt? 1 am acknowledging receipt.
- QSN Did you hear me on . . . kHz? I did hear you on . . . kHz.
- QSO Can you communicate with direct? I can communicate with on ... kHz.
- QSP Will you relay to I will relay to
- OSR Shall I repeat the call? Repeat your call.
- What working frequency will OSS you use? I will use the working frequency . . . kHz.
- QSU Shall I send a reply on this frequency or . . . kHz? Send on this or . . . kHz.
- OSV Shall I send a series of V's on this frequency? Send a series of V's
- QSW Will you send on this frequency with emissions of class . . .? I am going to send on this frequency with emissions of class . .
- QSX Will you listen to on ... kHz? I am listening to on . . .kHz.
- QSY Shall I change to transmission on another frequency? Change to another frequency.
- QSZ Shall I send each word or group more than once? Send each word or group more than once.
- QTH What is your location? My location is . . .
- QTQ Can you communicate by means of the Internation Code of Signals? I am going to communicate by means of the ICS.
- QTR What is the correct time? The correct time is hours.
- OTS Will you send your callsign for tuning purposes? I will send my callsign for tuning purposes.
- QTV Shall I stand guard for you on ... kHz. Stand guard for me on kHz.
- QTX Will you keep your station open for further communication with me? I will keep my station open for further communication with vou.
- QUA Have you news of . . .? Here is news of ...
- QUM May I resume normal working? Normal working may be resumed.

TABLE 2 (Most often used 'Q' Codes and other abbreviations)

- QRT Closed down or Closing down.
- QSK Station standing by.
- Verification card, confirm contact. QSL
- QSO Radio contact.
- Location (10-20) QTH IRC International Reply Coupon
- 9P Operator
- PSE Please (QSL)
- SASE Self Addressed Stamped Envelope TNX Thanks (QSL)
- 4 1 means that you will swop

the same number of cards as you receive.

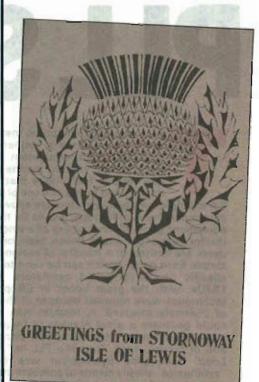
QSL Card Printers

D. Curries, 89 Derwent Street, Blackhill, Consett, Co. Durham, DH8 8LT POMA (Belgium) contact via UK Rep, Ray, P. O. Box 106, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 3YN. D'Zine of Preston, 36 Cannon Street,

Preston, Lancs. D. Jones, St. Ivy, North Road, Queensborough, Kent, ME11 5ET.

QSLers who would like to see your new card, so drop them a line and a few cards and ask for some of theirs.

Above all, QSLing is all about the swopping and collecting of cards, and making new friends all over the world, It is not cheap, especially when it comes to posting your many envelopes out, but it is funl Happy QSLing!



Gold block example



European BBM 'cartoon' type FCC

here are many electronic methods of generating the operating frequencies for radio communications equipment. Amateur radio, taxis, police, aircraft, marine and CB radios use various techniques that are ultimately determined by the end use of the equipment.

For example, amateur operators are allowed the use of a continuous band of frequencies, so for this reason ham equipment generally makes use of a single main tuning dial for frequency control. Police, taxis, or business band users are limited to a handful of assigned channels; a simple front panel switch can be used to switch among specific crystal-controlled oscillators. In the middle 1970s, with the great boom in CB popularity, new techniques were required because of the large number of channels involved. A method was needed which could generate a great number of frequencies with a minimum of parts, physical space, circuit complexity, and of course, cost. Thus the PLL or "Phase-Locked-Loop" Frequency Synthesizer was developed. To "synthesize" simply means to combine many parts into a whole to perform some function.

The PLL has attracted a great mystique and there is often an 'information gap' between the CBer's interest in the technical aspects of radio and the available information, so basic operation of the PLL Frequency Synthesizer will be described in the most non-technical manner possible. A thorough understanding of this subject is essential to the CB serviceman or hobbyist who seeks the maximum performance and operating flexibility from his equipment. By using examples from the American CB service (as I am most familiar with it), the reader will learn how the basic principles are applied to the UK CB service.

Brief History & Development

A major pressure for developing the PLL synthesizer was the American CB expansion from 23 to 40 channels in 1976. Until then, American radios used a method of frequency generation called "crystal synthesis" or "crystal-plexing." By combining a minimum number of quartz crystals in a common oscillator and the proper switch arrangement, all the required frequencies could be obtained by using only 12 or 14 crystals on AM (with only a few more for AM/SSB). This is a tremendous saving when one considers that otherwise at least 46 crystals would be required, one pair for each channel

By the time the American FCC announced its CB expansion from 23 to 40 channels, the technology for digital frequency synthesizers wes well along, and in fact the last generation of 23-channel U.S. equipment had already begun to use PLL techniques in place of crystal synthesizers. Those first designs were very complex because the use of many integrated circuits (ICs) was required, and early PLLs contained as many as 10 separate IC devices. As technology advanced, it became possible to build more and more electronic functions into a single IC "chip"; today's PLL-synthesized CB radio performs all the needed functions of channel selection and generation using only a single LSI (Large-Scale-Integration) PLL chip and a handful of external parts. Due to the huge number of CB hobbyists all competing for a limited number of channels, the use of illegal and unauthorised frequencies in the U.S. is very common. It was discovered quite early on that the PLL circuit could be easily modified to include many more than the "legal" 40 channels. The American FCC therefore required CB manufacturers to employ special PLLs which could not be easily modified, and we'll return to this subject later. The Home Office took a lesson from America and skipped the intermediate step to modifiable PLL ICs, going directly to the tamper-proof designs. Because of the great number of illegal American and Europeanmade CBs already in the U.K. using the simpler PLL methods, and because these devices are basic to understanding more sophisticated PLLs, they will be emphasised here. Later we'll discuss the most recent PLL technology.

The Basic Circuit

The PLL Frequency Synthesizer as used in CB radios is actually very simple in principle. The biggest stumbling block in describing the PLL is, "Where in the loop does one begin?" It's a little like the old chicken-vs.-the-egg question. The PLL is a closed system similar to a merrygo-round, with no beginning or end, but regardless of where you jumped on, you'll go around the loop and return to your particular starting point. If one understands how each major building block in the PLL relates to the rest, it will eventually be quite easy to view any PLL circuit as a sort of "black box" within the larger radio box. With the newest PLLs containing more and more on-chip functions, this is the only proper way to consider it because any PLL repair means replacing the whole IC anyway. Keep in mind the primary objective of the PLL is to create a large number of frequencies with a minimum of parts and complexity. It's all made possible by the use of digital techniques exactly like those used in any digital computer. In fact the PLL IC is a special function computer. The word "digital" as used here refers to an electronic device which can only recognize two distinct states. These states may be called "On" or "Off", "High" or "Low", "1" or "0", etc.

Figure 1 illustrates the basic elements of any PLL system. Arrows indicate the direction of signal flow. It can be seen that the flow simply revolves in a big circle or loop such that we can "jump on" anywhere, for the purposes of our discussion. The major components shown are:

- 1. Reference Oscillator & Divider,
- 2. Programmable Divider,
- 3. Phase Detector & Loop Filter,
- 4. Voltage-Controlled-Oscillator (VCO).

Reference Oscillator & Divider:

This sub-circuit is connected to the outside world through an ordinary crystal oscillator. The oscillator operates almost universally at a frequency of 10.240MHz. The reason is because with digital techniques, it's very easy to divide a signal of 10.240MHz by the number 1.024. If this is done, the result is a signal of 10KHz, which just heppens to be the required channel spacing for CB use. (All countries using CB allocate channels at



("Supersparks") explains how frequencies are generated via a Phase Locked Loop

10KHz spacings, including the British system. The fact that the British freqencies have been given "odd" assignments relative to other countries has no effect on PLL operation and the final operating frequency can be easily adjusted as required). The Reference Oscillator & Divider provide a very stable comparison standard against which all other frequencies will be synthesized.

Programmable Divider:

This is really the heart of the PLL synthesizer and is what makes it unique. By connecting it to the outside world through the Channel Selector switch, the operator is in effect commanding the Programmable Divider to divide its received signal by a specific number, called an "Ncode." The N-codes are numbers derived from the digital or "binary" number system (Base 2) rather than the common decimal system (Base 10) used by people. Each position of the Channel Selector changes the Ncode by connecting either a positive DC voltage or earth to the appropriate pins on the PLL's Programmable Divider. Sometimes a special variation of the N-code, called "BCD" or "Binary-Coded-Decimal" is used because there is already a great deal of support hardware available which uses BCD, such as the 7-segment LEDs which display the channel numbers. Most PLL chips contain from 6 to 9 programming pins and the number of available program pins has a direct effect upon the number of channels which can be synthesized. A specific example will be shown shortly.

Phase Detector & Loop Filter:

This circuit receives the two signals from the Reference Divider and the Programmable Divider and compares them, trying to make an exact match. We've already seen that one input signal (the Reference Divider) will always be exactly 10KHz (10.240MHz ÷ 1,024). However, the input signal from the Programmable Divider may not necessarily be exactly 10KHz, in which case an error exists. If this happens, the loop is said to be" out of lock" or "searching." The purpose of the Phase Detector is to bring the loop into lock through an appropriate command. The command it uses is a DC correction voltage, (+) or (-) as required, that is applied to the next PLL element, the VCO. Most Phase Detectors also contain a second output terminal, called a Lock Detector. If the error between the two incoming signals is vastly different, the Lock Detector produces a signal which will shut down the transmitter to prevent off-frequency operation.

Immediately following the Phase Detector is a circuit called a Loop Filter. Its purpose is to smooth out any sharp variations or transients coming from the Phase Detector which might otherwise be perceived as false commands. Digital signals require a high degree of purity to operate correctly. The Loop Filter may consist of a few external parts such as resistors and capacitors, or an actual on-chip circuit within the PLL device.

Voltage-Controlled-Oscillator (VCO):

The VCO is a unique circuit having many electronic uses besides CB, such as TV Automatic Fine Tuning or AFC on an FM stereo receiver. Basically it's an oscillator whose frequency is determined not by a quartz crystal or discrete coils/capacitors, but rather by a special voltagesensitive device called a "varactor" diode. Changing the DC voltage applied to a varactor changes its capacitance, which in turn shifts the oscillator frequency. The VCO's output is fed back to the Programmable Divider section, where the Phase Detector then decides whether or not a 10KHz signal exists. If so, the loop is locked up on the correct frequency. If not, the Phase Detector senses this error and sends a DC correction voltage to the VCO. This drives the VCO up or down in frequency until a match occurs and the loop locks. Although it may take many such comparison cycles before an exact match is found, the entire process occurs in a fraction of a second.

This brings us full circle around the loop and completes the basic PLL theory. Additional functions which are usually included in the PLL circuit are intended to increase its flexibility and to provide other convenient signal sources which are used elsewhere.

Frequency Mixing

It's essential to understand another basic radio principle closely associated with PLL synthesis; namely, the principle of "heterodyning" or mixing together two different signals to produce a third. Whenever two frequencies are mixed together, the result is two new frequencies in addition to the originals. These two new frequencies are simply the sum and difference of the originals. For example, by mixing a 10MHz and a 15MHz signal together, the result will be 10MHz, 15MHz, 5MHz (15MHz - 10MHz), and 25MHz (15MHz + 10MHz). By then passing these components through selectivelytuned circuits, only one of the mixing products will be retained and the other rejected. The mixing process is important to PLL circuits because it provides other needed signals that operate radio sections having nothing to do with channel generation. Of course these other signals could be generated by the use of individual crystal oscillators or variable oscillators but this would add cost and complexity to the radio. CB mixer circuits may be designed using only a single transistor or IC and a handful of other parts so the logic is to use whatever is already available.

Intermediate Frequencies (IF)

The reason that mixing is even required at all is because signals at 27 MHz are much too difficult to process directly. This is considered a rather high frequency and it is much more desirable to convert such a signal to some other frequency, usually lower. By doing this we gain the best possible stability, receiver sensitivity and selectivity. In addition there is a vast amount of existing electronic hardware using certain standard values; this also saves on manufacturing costs.

Since the PLL circuit is already generating several kinds of signals, it's easy to borrow these existing signals for other uses within the radio. Such uses centre around the production of the "Intermediate Frequencies" (IF) which operate the receiver section of the CB transceiver. The signals are mixed or "injected" into the 27 MHz signal chain to produce the more workable IF frequencies.

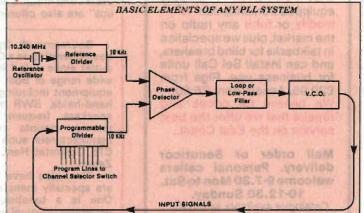


Fig. 1 Next month, Lou Looks at a real PLL synthesizer to see how an on-channal signal is generated.





What exactly can CB dealers offer customers? W

use ediner and

TV Radio Aerial Services of London Road, Hemel Hempstead handle most makes of CB equipment, in addition to cordless phones and aerials. The proprietor, Nick Gee, has been in the aerial business since 1969, and branched out to cover CB four years ago. The shop has a reputation for excellent after-sales service and firstclass repairs. The shop covers two floors and repairs are done on site. These repairs include CB, TV, hi-fi and video.

Toreadors, of High Town Road, Luton, offer a large range of CBs and accessories including equipment by Uniace, Oscar, DNT, LCL, Transcom, Harry Moss, Maxcom, Audioline, Cybernet and Commtel. Proprietor David Bull is a radio amateur with 9 years RAF electronics experience and a further 10 years in computers. He is also founder member of the Romeo Lima Mad Hatters QSL and DX Club. There are usually special offers to be had, as well as a range of second-hand equipment. Dave also offers a speedy repair service with a basic service charge of only £4.60 for a complete "set-up" to Home Office standards.

CB Radio and Model Hobbies are a little off the beaten track, tucked away at the bottom of Parndon Mill Lane in a garden-type setting. They specialise in the leisure/hobby business and stock CB, radio controlled equipment, in-car radio, in-car phones and answering machines. They stock many makes and models including mobiles from £25 to £200, bases from £55 to £250, power mikes (mobile and base) from £7.50 to £80 and hand-helds (3 to 40 channels) from £19 to £49. Accessories include SWR/power meters, echoes, pre-amps, filters, antennae, cables and mounts. Repairs and "tuneups" are also offered.

Bournemouth Open Channel has been operating as a CB radio specialist outlet since July 1981. They stock a wide range of both 27 and 934 MHz equipment including mobiles, bases, hand-helds, SWR meters, extension speakers, frequency counters, antennae, mounts and cables from manufacturers such as Altai, Bremi, CTE, Commtel, Ham, Lemm, Sirtel and Zetagi.

They also have two items which are specially manufactured for them. One is a tunebox/sequential tone generator (musical or multi-tone roger bleep) which will fit into any type of transceiver. Equally popular is their channel 9 priority scanner which alerts the user when a signal appears on channel 9. The shop recently expanded and is now three times the original size. The range of goods, too, has expanded and now includes in-car entertainment, telephones, radios and cassettes and various audio accessories. As well as their own workshop, they also sell service aids and tools. For the DXer, Open Channel run their own DX club with more than 150 members.

Ratchet Shack of Bells Arcade, Newbury, have been operating for five years and sell a very comprehensive range of CB rigs and accessories. There is a very heavy accent on the repairs and servicing side of the business and proprietor David Stamp spends a lot of time organising modifications and customising rigs for motorcycle use, selective calling for local farms etc. They have a fully kitted-up workshop and the shop is open from Monday to Saturday 9am until 6pm.

Up in Manchester, CB Centre Base 1 can offer a wide range of CB equipment. Although they mainly concentrate on the wholesale side, their retail outlet is well worth a visit. It is a family business and they aim on pleasing the customer. They offer the usual guarantees and also sell via mail order. Special offers can usually be found most of the time and, with long experience in the world of CB, they can also offer servicing, repairs and modifications.

Truck King of Watford, Hertfordshire, have been trading since 1979 and provide a wide range of equipment for CBers and truckers. A look at any of their advertisements in this magazine will give you an idea of the kind of equipment they stock. They also run a mail order service, whereby all items are individually checked, tested and guaranteed. They recently published their latest catalogue, with over 300 items listed and described. Partexchange and, naturally, secondhand equipment are also available.

One of the growing number of CB shops specialising in 934 is Breakers' World in Bordon, Hants. The shop has much to commend it. Unlike many



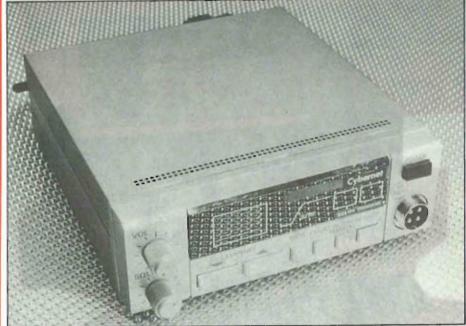
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cluding repairs, modifications and accessories. As many readers will know, they have an excellent reputation for their repair service and it's very much a labour of love for proprietor Lloyd Fuller. The shop is soon to expand by moving into the premises next door, thus enlarging it to four times its original size.

Down in sunny Clacton-on-Sea, Coastal CB and Trophy are celebrating six months in the CB business. They stock a full range of radios, antennae, car cassettes and speakers. Apart from famous names like Uniace, Audioline, Harvard and Commtel, they can also supply "talking rigs" for the blind, which are specially adapted rigs on which a robot-like voice informs the retailers. Equipment covered includes names like Nevada, Cybernet, Zenith and AKD and the ranges include rigs, meters, echo units, speech processors, pre-amps, extension speakers and amateur radio equipment. Their mail order business can offer same day despatch and they recently published their latest catalogues for 27 and 934 MHz equipment, available for £1 each.

Lincs and South Humberside CB Centre is in the main shopping centre of Grimsby and has been trading since March 1981. They stock as wide a range of CB equipment as they can get their hands on and offer a full backup and repair service, thanks to their large



operator that they have selected channel 19. They are also hoping to break into the 934 market and have an extensive workshop, where repairs are carried out by an ex-Marconi engineer.

Telecomms of London Road, Portsmouth, are now firmly established in the CB world, both as distributors and

Hined Inte methodes by white C3 in hololog stock of components. As well as retailing components, they also wholesale, under the trade name of Tower Components. In addition to CB equipment, their huge premises also houses cordless phones, computer software and audio and TV equipment.

Communications of Rainham, Kent, opened in November 1981 and, as well as stocking a wide range of CB equipment such as Bremi, Les Wallen, Nevada, Cybernet etc, they also deal in cordless phones, answering machines and video equipment. They specialise in 934 and believe that communiman in charge and, with over 18 years' experience as an electronics engineer as well as being a licenced radio amateur, he knows a bit about communications, to say the least Repairs, modifications and conversions are all carried out in a fully-equipped workshop and Mike carries out all tune-ups himself.

CB World down in Portsmouth have been trading for three years and stock most makes of CB equipment, along with cordless phones. They also offer servicing, repairs and mail order. The accent is on friendly service at CB

cations in general will be the thing of the future. Favouring a "go-ahead" approach, Communications also offer servicing, repairs and installations.

enith?

Mitier Telecommunications are situated just over three miles to the east of Lincoln and, for the last three years, their immense showrooms have housed what is claimed to be the widest range of CB equipment in Lincolnshire — everything from Maxcom to Shogun, in fact Mike Cutler is the

Distri

World and, to this end, they have an "eyeball room" where breakers can meet and chat — and drink free coffee on Saturdays. They say all breakers are welcome for eyeballs or QSL swaps and they even offer a PO Box number free of charge.

Civic of Bedford have been dealing with CB since 1979. As well as covering 27 and 934 MHz, they also sell cordless phones and TVs. Their range of stock includes "virtually everything that's available" and they also offer a mail order service. Having been involved with CB since its inception, they also offer servicing, repairs and aerial erections.

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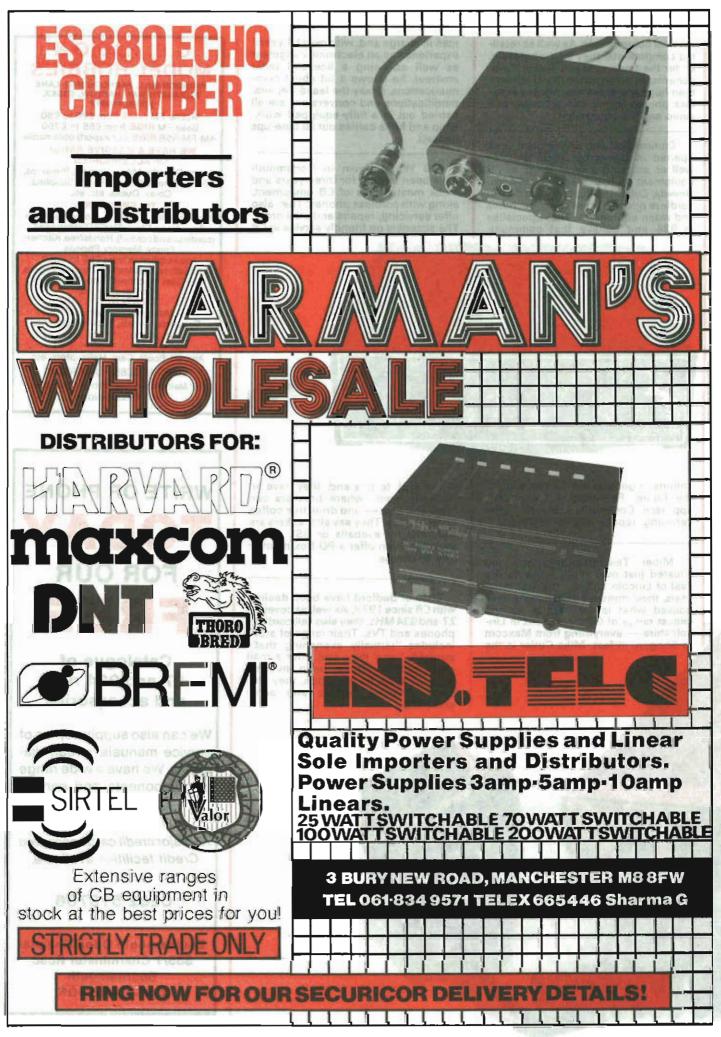
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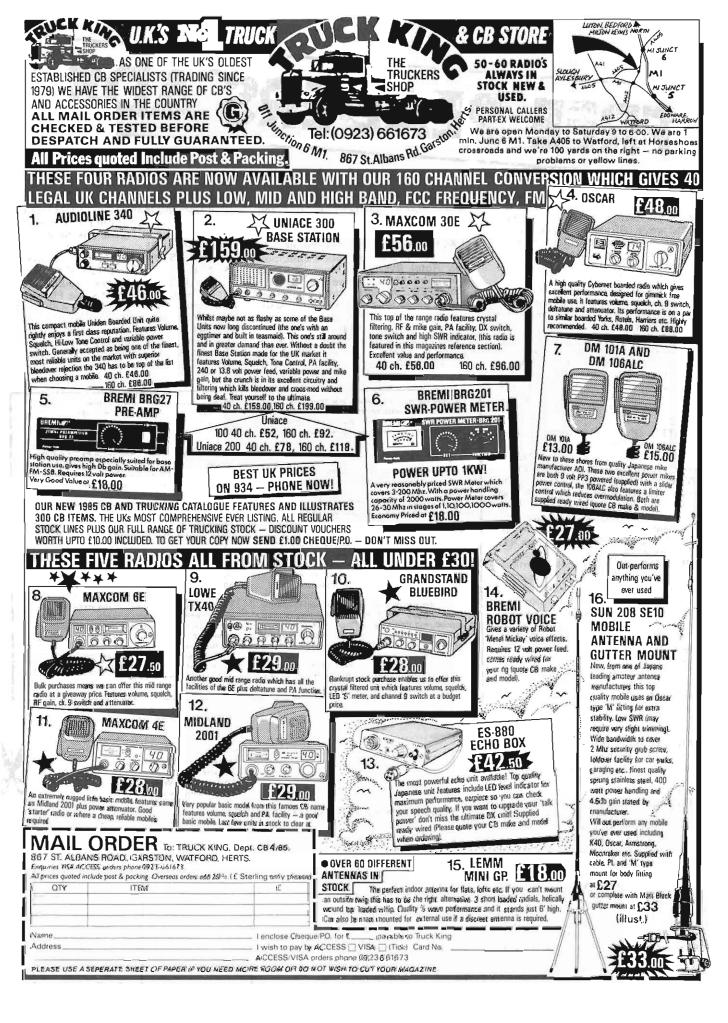
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FOR SALE Fidelity 2001, SWR meter, 6' Firestik, multi ground planes, coaxial. Cost £65 will accept £55 or near offer. Also unwanted eyeball cards, please send to 30, Devonshire Gardens, Tilehurst, Reading, Berks. Phone about CB after 5pm. (0734) 22242.

WANTED DNT HF13/40 hand-held CB, Murphy base station (from Comets), Maxcom Speakeasy 27MHz.

Phone Newhaven (0273) 516801. SWOP modified Cobra 148 GTLDX, needs little attention, also CTE RF-100 linear amplifier one week old, also S/P/F meter, other accessories etc., ext. speaker, CW key, ant. FOR President Madison Andrew, P.O. Box 41, Kilmarnock, Scotland.

Kilmarnock, Scotland, FOR SALE, VIC 20 colour micro computer plus £170 worth of assorted software. Must sell, total cost when new £310, sell for £180 o.v.n.o. This must go! Would also swap for general comm. receiver or radio such as FT101, 201 with 10m bands A, B, C, D. Offers by post to Tony Sheach, 8 Stuan Road, Portree, Isle of Skye, Scotland. IV51 9EG, or phone (0478) 2548 after 5pm, ask for Tony.

HARRIER WT2 40 channel, ni-cads and charger, good condition £20 also Zetagi pre amp, 25dB gain model P27.1 £10. Tel Bristol 65828.

WANTED Ham International multimode 111, exchange Oric, Atmos computer and software, 4 colour printer plotter. H. Hume, 17B Langton Road, Edinburgh. EH9 3DA.

ROTEL mobile transceiver as new £20. Scanner SX200 with PSU £195. Sound board for Spectrum puts sound onto TV £5. 2 meter receiver, complete with mobile mount, many channels £40, Amstrad 901 as new in box £25. Phone Dave 021 777 6268.

WANTED URGENTLY adult breakers with a sense of public duty, legal stations, free time and telephone to assist Monitoring Service of Great Britain on channels 9 and 19. Contact Roy Bedward, 50 Helena Close, Roundshaw, Surrey. 01-699 3089.

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Issue	Major feature
February 1984	Maxcom 30E
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April 1984	Grandstand 27/934MHz.
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June 1984	Scanning and Telephone
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July 1984	Walkie talkie round-up
August 1984	Audioline 341
September 1984	AR2001 scanner
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December 1984	
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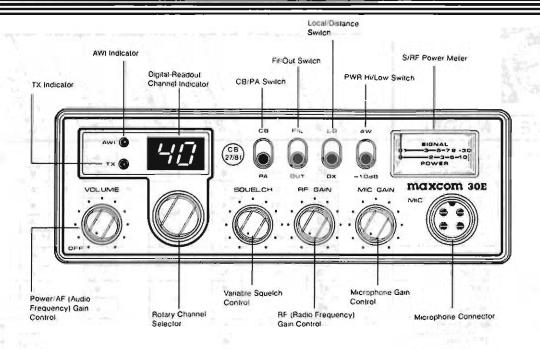
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zens'.Band ENCE SECI S



A CB SET AND ITS CONTROLS

VOLUME

Sometimes called Audio Frequency Gain centrol. Usually combined with the 'power on' switch. The volume control will only increase or decrease the loudness of the incoming signal - it won't alter the strength of it or affect the transmitted signal CHANNEL SELECTION

For choosing the channel you transmit and receive on

CHANNEL INDICATOR Displays, usually by LEOs, the channel you have selected. Some channel displays are of liquid crystel or fluorescent. The digits are normally bright red, green, orange or blue and visible in all but the most direct sunlight

SQUELCH

The squelch control is used for quieting background hiss or the babble of distant signals. The control is turned slowly, usually to the right, until the background noise disappears. The squelch control will then only open to let through a stronger signal than those you have nureted out. As soon as the stronger signal goes, the circuit closes. Care must be taken not to turn the squelch control up too far, as then only a very strong signal will open it.

SIGNAL/RF METER On most sets this is of the 'moving needle' type against an analogue background. Some sets do have a bar of LEDs that light up to show the strength of either the received signal or the transmission. It shows tha relative strength, not a reading in dB or Watts. These meters cannot be 100% accurate and different rigs will give slightly different readings for signals of the same strength

RF GAIN

This controls the reception sensitivity of the set. When decreased the set is less sensitive, and when increated the set is more sensitive to weaker signals. Reducing the gain helps prevent Some sots, instead of having a suitable rotary control, have a flick two position switch marked *local* and *distance*. Full sensitivity is the distant position

MIC. GAIN

Adjusts the sensitivity of the microphone amplifier circuit and controls the audio from the microphone that is used to modulate the signal

CB/PA SWITCH This switch turns your CB set into e low public address amplifier, when an external speaker is fitted into the socker on the back of the rig. Anything said into the microphone is amplified and broadcast through the speaker and not transmitted from the antenna

TONE OR FILTER CONTROL This can either be a rotary or flick switch. It controls the tonal quality of received signals in accordance with the users preference.

POWER ANTENNA

Reduces the transmitter power from 4Watts to 0.4Watts. The attenuator should be used if your antenna is mullinted more than 7 metres above the ground

RX/TX INDICATORS Theso light emitting diodes light up to show if you pre receiving IRX) or transmitting (TX).

ANTENNA WARNING INDICATOR This a warning indicator which is activated by trouble in the antenna system e.g. a bad mismatch or damage to the antenna or cable. You should stop transmitting if this lights up, and correct The problem

Your set may also have the following controls

CHANNEL 9 SWITCH This is an 'over-ride' switch that will immediately select channel 9 without using the channel selector to find it. It is litted to save time in an omergency

OFITA TUNE

This is not a common feature on British sets, where frequency and stability are closely specified. It is a fine tuning device for tuning in statiens that are operating alignity off frequency DIMMER

Works on the same principle as a domestic light dimmer, and reduces the amount of illumination on displays and dials on the CB set. A few sets have an automatic dimmer built in, which measures the lighting level through a photo-electric cell and adjusts the illumination accordingly.

ANL/NOISE BLANKER

The Automatic Noise Limiter or Noise Blanket is designed to reduce interference from a car's ignition system by desensitising the receiver slightly. If the ignition circuit is already adequately suppressed it will not make any difference

CHANNEL BUSY/FREE INDICATOR This is usually a LED that illuminates when a particular channel is in use or is from. This is gauged by the amount of 'traffic' on the channel which has to be at a certain level before the indicator is activated. Sets have either a 'free' or 'busy' indicator, not both.



СВ 27/81		7/6	DE -	SUPPLY VOLTAGE	SQUEL	NB SWITCH	Shin	MIKE GAL	Nin	Con	S. RF M.	SI'RE LET	0.H.O	FACILI	Aunit /
NAME	MODEL	PRIAIL	No.	SUP, VOLI	sou	NB S	ANI	MIK	RF GAIN	TONE	S. A.	SIR	HILLO	PAFA	12
AMSTRAD	CB901	£40	40	13.8VDC	•		and and a			•		•	•	•	1.
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COLT	295	£49.99	40	13.8VDC	•		1990								
COMMTEL	GT858	£30	40	13.80VC	•	1	24		2000	11	•		•		
COMMTEL	GT68B	£36	40	13.8DVC			-			- 11					
COMMTRON	CB40F	£70	40	13.8VDC				-		-			•		
COMMTRON	СХХ	£69.95	40	13.8VDC	•		1.000		•				380	•	
COMMUNICATORS	NI-440DX	£50	40	13.8DVC											
CYBERNET	BETA 1000	£70	40	13.8VDC			Contraction of the					•		-	
CYBERNET	BETA 2000	£85	40	13.8VDC	•				•						
CYBERNET	BETA 3000	£100	40	13.8VDC		-			•						•
DNT	M40FM SPECIAL	£100	40	13.8VDC	0	141.51	10.00	-		-		-		-	
FIDELITY	CB 1000M	£70	40	13.8VDC	•				-						
FIDELITY	CB 2000M	£90	40	13.8VDC				•		•				•	•
FIDELITY	20001 FM	£70	40	13.8VDC	•			•		•				•	•
GRANDSTAND	BLUEBIRD	£50	40	13.8VDC	•		TANK S		-		•	1.			•
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GRANDSTAND	GEMINI	£60	40	13.8VDC		•					1000	•		1111	•
GRANDSTAND	LA 83 934 MHz	£400	20	13.8DVC			Contract of	1	10/121			-			
INTERCEPTOR	INTERCEPTOR	£80	40	13.8VDC	•		1000					-			
INTERCEPTOR	TC400	£95	40	13.8VDC				•						-	•
INTERCEPTOR	ONE HANDER	£100	40	13.8VDC	•	1.000	1	•	•	•	-	•	- Distance		
JOHNSON	JOHNSON	£50	40	13.8VDC	•		- There					1.0	•	•	•
LAKE	MANXMAN 850	£32.50	40	13.8VDC	•	(2.00 110		10000			1.1			100
LAKE	MANXMAN 950	£37.50	40	13.8VDC	•		Same and		•	1			•	•	
LOWE	TX 40	£50	40	13.8VDC	•		1725		•		•	-		1.1	•
MAGPIE	AUTOSCAN 5000	£120	40	13.8VDC	•			•	•					•	•
MAXCOM	4E	£50	40	13.8VDC	•		1000				•	1		•	•
MAXCOM	6E	£48	40	13.8VDC	•		222		•		•	1000	•	Later I	210
MAXCOM	20E	£50	40	13.8VDC	•		220					191 11	•	1.4.1	
MAXCOM	21E	£50	40	13.8VDC	•		200			1	•	con	•	an	
MAXCOM	165	£40	40	13.8VDC	•	1.5			1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		•		•		•
MAXCOM	30E	£65	40	13.8VDC	٠			•	0	•		1.11		•	٠
	and the second second		C. HAR		a series		(Sugar		(Augus)	1	(m)		26	1000	1 CE
	A state and a state of the state of the		1 porta		10-214	1	17.100		- Salary	1	- waln	1	- Aler		
					10.00	1	1000		a substitu		1000		with	1.1.1	
			1						1.201		13-7-1		12000	1.1	100
			100		1.197	-	1700		10 27			-	in the second		
			- Con			-		-						TRUCK	-

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.

RX IND. LIC	CH 9 Shirt	Milke POOL	COMMENTS	ADDRESS	NAME
-		1 The second		ADDITECC	
	1910	SL	Report Feb '82	Amstrad Consumer Electronics, 1-7 Garman Rd., London N17	AMSTRAD
		SL	D	Telecomms, 189 London Rd, North End, Portsmouth	AUDIOLINE
27	_		Report Feb '82	The second secon	AUDIOLINE AUDIO LINE
•	-		and the second second		
	-	FL	1.4 - 1.4 -	K B & Co Ltd., 202 Cheetham Hill Rd, Manchester	COLT
345		SL		Globe, 168 Brooker Road, Waltham Abbey, Essex	COMMTEL
		SL	Dimmer Switch Features	No. MOVILI SCHOOL PUR STA	MMTEL
	•	FL		Roger D, 831 Mansfield Rd, Notts	COMMTRON
NE IL	19	FL			COMMTRON
•	•	FL	Roger Beep Feature	the second s	1000
		SL	An all the second	Goodmana Loudspeaker Ltd., Downley Rd, Havant, Hants POO 2NL	CYBERNET
•		FL	Report May '83		CYBERNET
•	•	FL	Report September '83		CYBERNET
Test		FL.	Report July '82		DNT
The last		SL	Report December '81	Fidelity Redio Ltd., Victoria Rd. London NW10	FIDELITY
T Call and	•	FL	Report March '82		FIDELITY
Det	•		Report September 'B2		FIDELITY
		SL	and the second s	Bee-Ware Ltd., Ripon Way, Harrogate, N. Yorks.	GRANDSTAND
		SL		the state of the second s	GRANDSTAND
	100	SL	La L		GRANDSTAND
1	2		Feetures combined with Bluebird (Included)	North States of the states of	GRANDSTAND
	34.5	SL		Telecomme. 198 London Rd. North End. Portsmouth	INTERCEPTOR
•	1.50	FL	121 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1		INTERCEPTOR
	173	FL	1761 181 18 18 1 BINE		INTERCEPTOR
	2 11	FL	Great GT868 chassis	Star Warehouse, Chalk Farm Rd, London	JOHNSON
12000		FL	in high - from the former for the second	Roger D, 831 Mansfield Rd., Nottingham NG5 3GF	LAKE
		FR	Report April '83	THE REAL PARTY AND AND A STATE OF	LAKE
•		FL	Report March '83	Lowe Electronics. Mastock. Derbyshire	LOWE
	•	FL	Report November '82	Magpie Electronics, PO Box 35, Andover, Hants SP10 2LG	MAGPIE
-		FL	- Barris and a second	AM House, 9A Old's Approach, Tolpits Ln. Watford, Herts	MAXCOM
12014	•	FL			MAXCOM
123-44	•	FL		A REAL PROPERTY AND A REAL	MAXCOM
- Sells	•	FL		THE PARTY OF THE P	MAXCOM
		FL		CALL SANDING THEIR AND A DATE OF THE SANDING	MAXCOM
		FL	Report Jan '84	and the second se	MAXCOM
					100
	-	Contraction of			and a second
-		1	And a Balance of the second		
	_		1.6 . 82	A AND A CONTRACTOR OF A CONTRACT OF A CONTRACT.	
Constant of		SUB-	a state of the sta	A REPORT OF STREETS STREETS	BRAN PA
			and the second se	SAVES SAVES	the second se

Ca 27/61		RETALL PRICE	00	Super boy	Squer 14GE	-C#	ANI CH	owinch.	RF C.	1	CONTROL	METER	HU. LEOR'O	Tuaruo	Et Snea
NAME	MODEL	RET	1000	Sup	sau	182	ANE	MIN	R.	TONE	S. Br	10	HIN	1	13
MERCURY	10 40	N/A	40	13.8VDC	•								•	•	•
MURPHY	DS-602	£25	40	13.8VDC		U-ta	380		12-12			•	1981	•	3.227
MUSTANG	CB1000	£49.95	40	13.8VDC	•	1.1.5	12-10		13.72	-		133	12-2	•	•
MUSTANG	CB3000	£59.99	40	13.8VDC		Ĩ	1000			•	0			•	•
NATO	40M	£69.95	40	13.8VDC	•		17103	•		•			Reder	•	•
NATO	2000	£189.95	40	13.8VDC						•			•	•	•
OSCAR	OSCAR I	£85	40	13.8VDC		10 V 14	1000				•		•		•
OSCAR	OSCAR II	£49	40	13.8VDC			115				•		•	•	•
REFTEC	934	£300	20	13.8VDC		0.20	1.1.1		1		0				•
ROTEL	RVC 220	£50	40	13.8VDC	•		0.50		The loss		•		•		•
ROTEL	RVC 230	£70	40	13.8VDC	•		1216.1			•			•	•	•
ROTEL	RVC 240	001	40	13.8VDC				•		•	•		•	•	•
SIRTEL	SEARCHER	£40	40	13.8VDC	•	2	1.4							•	•
TANDY	TRC2001	£80	40	13.8VDC		(11 H)	1, 231		100		•	1	٠	•	•
TANDY	TRC2002	£70	40	13.8VDC		1.	12.25		1		0		•	•	•
TANDY	TRC2000	£100	40	13.8VDC			12 Ac	•			•		•	•	•
TANDY	TRC1004	£79	40	12VDC	•	10							•		- And
TANDY	TRC2003	£130	40	13.8VDC	•	-							•		•
UNIDEN	UNIACE 100	£69.95	40	13.8VDC									•	•	•
UNIDEN	UNIACE 200	£89.96	40	13.8VDC	•	1000		•			•	1.1	•	•	•
WAGNER	9000	£59-95	40	13.8VDC	•		122-70				0		•	•	•
WAGNER	COMPACT 40	£26	40	13.8VDC	•		1-27		-		0		•		•
WESTERN	COMPACT 40	£34.50	40	13.8VDC	0				-		0		•	1	•
WESTWARD	P.T.2	£159.95	40	13.8VDC 240V	•				200		•		•	•	•



27/81		211	1	Sumply Voltage	1	NB SIL	-mirch	Swirtch	Rr Calin	AIN	S RE CONTROL	Hr	1. 10 8.0	En ranun	ex Security
NAME	MODEL	HET AIL PRICE	10	101	Sou	Ne	INA	MIKE	14	10r	15	100	"III	12	10
AUDIOLINE	345	£139.95	40	240VAC	0			•	•				•	•	PULL IN
COMMTEL		£65	40	240/12V	•	1	12.5				•				
DNT	840	£TBA	40	240VAC	•					\square	•		•	-	
DNT	82740	£TBA	40	240VAC	•						•		•	1	
DNT	The second s	ÉTBA	40	240VAC	•			\Box	•		•		•		
FIDELITY	CB 3000M	£125	40	240VAC	•		FRE		0.	•	0		•	•	•
GRANDSTAND	BASE:	£220	40	240VAC	4)				•		•				•
HAM INT.	JUMBO	£254	40	240VAC	-			•						•	•
HAM INT	CONCORDE II	£164	40	240VAC	•	•			•		•		•	•	•
HARVARD	H401	£149.95	40	240VAC	•		-		0.		•		•	•	
MIDLAND	76-200	£150	40	240VAC	•		22.2				•		•		•
REFTEC	85 934	£450	20	240V			100				•		•		
UNIDEN	UNIACE 300	£149.95	40	240VAC	0			•	•	•	•		•	•	•
WAGNER	BASE	£150	40	240VAC	•	-		-	•	•				•	•
WESTWARD	P.T.2	£159.95	40	240V/12V	•		1000		E		0		•	•	•

					KEFE	RENC
0	AY IN LIGHT	CH S. LIGHT	Surrey and	Connerros	MOBIL	ES
1	R. W.	CH.	All K	Com	ADDRESSES	NAME
•			FR	Report July '83	E.M.S. Communications. Grove St. Wantage, Oxon LX21 7AD	MERCURY
•	•		FL		Murphy Electronics, Wernbly, Midda	MURPHY
•	•	1.24	FL.		K.8. & Co Ltd. 202 Cheetham Hill Rd. M/cr.	MUSTANG
•	•	•	FL.	-1-	TO THE TAKE OF DUCK	MUSTANG
•		1	FL		Roger D. 831 Mansfield Rd. Nottingham NG5 3GF	NATO
•			SL	Report January '83		NATO
-		•	FL	Cybernet 134 chassis rep. April '82	S.M.C. Runbridge St. Totton, Hants S04 40P	OSCAR
10	120	1.12	FL	Report Oct '83	The set of the set of the	OSCAR
٠			FL		RF Technology, Leyton Ave Ind Est, Mildenhall, Suffolk	REFTEC
			FL	Cybarnet chassis	Rotel Hi-Fi, 2-4 Erica Rd, Stacey Bushes, Miton Keynes	ROTEL
•	•	•	SL	Cybernet chassis		ROTEL
٠			SL	Cybernet chassis		ROTEL
٠		-	FL			SIRTEL
٠		1	SL	ANUT THE STORE WHEN	Tame Way, Tower Bridge St. Walsail, Staffs	TANDY
•	and good	2010	SL	THE ALL REAL PROPERTY AND A	and the second sec	TANDY
٠	100	187 C	SL			TANDY
•	1 200	-322	-		THE REAL PROPERTY AND	TANDY
	1000	1	SL	Report Nov '82	and the second state of th	TANDY
•	-		SL	Report Sept '82	Craveminster Ltd, Unit 8, Ind Est, Llandudno Junct, Gwynedd	UNIDEN
٠			FL	Report Feb '83	CONTRACTOR OF THE STATE OF THE	UNIDEN
٠	•		FL		Knight Communications Ltd. Unit 19; Brittania Est. Leagrava Rd.	WAGNER
•	•		FL		Luton, Beds	WAGNER
•			SL		Western Electronics, Fairfield Est, Louth, Notts	WESTERN
		3	FL	Report Nov '83	Westward Electronica, The Mill House, Westward Tuckenhay, Totnes, Devon 086423 336/370	WESTWARD



/	01	0/	Ens	NEW		/
12	RA INC.	CH 3 CH	in Sur	Counter	ADDRESSES	NAME
•				. The second second	Telecomme, Portsmouth and Globe, Essex	AUDIOLINE
			FR	Report December '83. Also comes with telescopic antenna		COMMTEL
•			FL	Rewiew May '82	Constant and the second s	DNT
•		•	FR	Report May '82	The second states and the second	DNT
•		•	SIR	Report May '82		DNT
		•	FL		Fidelity Radio Ltd., Victoria Rd. London NW16	FIDELITY
•			FL		Bee Ware Ltd., Rippon Way, Harrogate, N. Yorks	GRANDSTAND
•			SL			HAM INT.
		•	FL			HAM INT.
•			FL			HARVARD
•			FL			MIDLAND
•	•		FR	See company for further features	RF Technology, Leyton Ave. Ind. Est. Mildenhall, Suffolk	REFTEC
•			FL	Reviewed August '83	Cravenminster Ltt., Unit 8. Industrial Est. Llandudno Junction, Gwynedd	UNIDEN
•			FL	and the second se	Knight Communications Ltd, Unit 19 Brittania Est, Leaguere Rd, Luton LU3 1RJ	WAGNER
nin			FL	Report Nov '83	Westward Electronics, The Mill House, Tuckenhay, Yotnes, Devon, Totnes, Devon 080427, 336/379	WESTWARD

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CB 27/81	RETAIL PRICE	OF	ELS VOLTAGE		SWITCH	SWITCH	Gain			Mer		04/0	FACILIE	Spr	
NAME	MODEL	RETAIL	NO. OF	Supply	SQUELCH	NB SWI	ANL SW	MIKEG	RF GAIN	TONE	S. RF	S'RF LEO	HILO	PA FA	EX SP
DNT	HF 12/3	£47.55	3	BATTERIES	•	-						1		100	-
HARVARD	WT44	2.0 3.	40	BATTERIES	•	53 - F - F	1151					1.1.1	•	100	1
KAISER	CBX40	£80	40	BATTERY	•		0.001	1			•	1.71	•	1.10	
MAXCOM	78	£49.95	40	BATTERY	•							14	•		4.3
MIDLAND	75-720	£59.95	40	12VDC	•		and the		11.24	0.0	()=j)	9, 78	and the		1
TANDY	TRC1001	£119		BATTERY	•			1.1	N BERNON	111		110	•	1	0
WESTWARD	PT2	£159.95	40	Int. Batt.	•	-						1	•	•	•
	and the second second	ALL LAW A	- 11	a second to be							1200	1.21	1		1

PHONE CHECKLIST

approved phones a	ire marked ●	PRICE FREQUENCY			RECHAR	IN USE LAN.	dan	Dia	EXTERNO	ANT.	HAM
NAME	MODEL	PRICE	FHEQ	RANGE	RECH	IN USI	INTERCOL	AUTO DIA	EXTER	SECUI	HANDO
A-PHONE	TP125	£80	49MHz., 1.6-1.BMHz	230m	•	•	En	•		1	
ВТ	HAWK	£165	47MHz., 1.7MHz.	100m		•	100	•			
FIDELITY	WANDERER •	£170	47MHz., 1.7MHz	200m	•	•		•			X
FREEDOMPHONE	3500	£199	49MHz., 1.7MHz	200m	•	•	•	•	L. C. P.	1.13	1000
HANDY PHONE	HP 1001	£199	49MHz., 35MHz		0	•	•	•	•	•	
MAXCALL		£116	49MHz., 1.7MHz	100m	•	•	•	•	Salar S	(i	
MAXCOM	MCP150A	£89	49MHz., 1.6-1.8MHz	800m	•		Same in			271	-
MAXCOM	MCP 120	£70	49MHz., 1.7MHz	700ft	and the local division of		y Phar	•		21.1	
MAXCOM		£99	49MHz., 1.7MHz	200m	•		•	•	17901		11
PACER	7800	£149	49MHz., 1.7MHz	500m			0		1.99		10
SUPERFONE	CT600	£115	49MHz., 1.7MHz	100m	•						9
SUPERFONE	CT650	£199	49MHz., 1.7MHz	230m	•	•	•	•		•	. 0
SUPERFONE	CT505	£299	49MHz., 70MHz	1Km	•	•	•	•	•	•	
T GL INCH								133. 1713.	-	-	4
		1			-			- W		19.1	
						_		1			
- 14 A		Switch =				Saw.	a.) ()	13		100	TTE

CH 9 SWITCH MIKE POSITION COMMENTS	PORTAB	LES
CH 9 S	ADDRESS	NAME
t and see 2		DNT
External antenna facility	Globe, 168 Brooker Road, Waltham Abbey, Essex	HARVARD
	Telecomms, 189 London Rd. North End, Portsmouth	KAISER
	A.T.M., AM House, 9A Old's Approach, Tolpits La, Watford Herts	MAXCOM
	Plustronix Ltd., Hemostalls Lrt, Newcastle-under Lyme, Staffs	MIDLAND
	Tame Way, Tower Bridge St. Walsall	TANDY
FL Report Nov '83	The Mill House, Tuckenhay, Totnes, Devon 080423 336/370	WESTWARD
	THE CONTRACT OF AND PARTY OF A PA	TRUE PARTY TAR

The range of telephones and communications accessories available to the consumer is increasing rapidly. Not all equipment is approved by British Telecom — so look for the tag with the green dot if you want 'BT Approved' accessories.

087	Min		COMMENTS	CORDLESS PI	
STANDBY	BATT. IND	PRIVE	COMM	ADDRESS	NAME
•		Ĩ.	Report Feb '84		A-PHONE
•	0	100	Report July '84	Local BT Sales Offices	Contraction of the
	10	•	Report July 'B3 BT Approved	the second second second second second	FIDELITY
	1.1		Report May '83	Fidelity Ltd., Victoria Rd., London NW10	FREEDOMPHONE
,	1	٠	Report Aug '83	Thenet Electronics Ltd., Reculver Rd., Beltinge, Kent	HANDY PHONE
		14	Report June '83		MAXCALL
		Sol	Report Oct '83	Maxon Group, AM House, 9A Old's Approach, Tolpits Ln., Watford, Herts	MAXCOM
			Street and States and	Report May '84	
			Report May '83	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	MAXCOM
		1	Report May '83		PACER
_			Report April '83	Superione Communications, London NW2	SUPERFONE
		•	Report April '83	and a second of the second of the second of the	SUPERFONE
,			Report April '83	The second dependent open of the second	SUPERFONE
		ê. 1		V Comment	1
_			STUDER IN THE STELL SEL A	and the second sec	
	1	201		A second se	and or a state
_	-			and the second sec	
_					Antis America
	112		A LAND A LINE OF BUILDER	and the second	2 Britsune
		1			

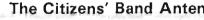
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TX IND. LIGHT

RX IND LIGHT



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

RANGE

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.

itennas released after this change of heart.				HE	X	1	LOADIN	IN	4
NAME	ADDRESSES	MODEL	CONSTR	LENGTH	MAX	TYPE	LOA	MOUNT	PRICE
AERIAL SUPPLIES	Aerial Supplies (Redditch) Ltd. 6 Widney House, Bromsgrove Road, Redditch, Worcs. (0527 62620/60107)	Silver Stat Silver Arrow Javalin Jevelin Dipole	AL AL AL AL	1.5 1.5 1.64 1.64	100 500 500 500	8 8 8 8	BBCC	Pole Pole Pole Pole	Duuc
ALLGON	Communications, 10 North Street, Strood, Knnt.	Various	FG SS AL	Various	Various	B M	TCBCW	Various	A-H inc.
ARMSTRONG	Staleside 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 55 55 55 55	1.05 1.06 1.06 1.06 1.06 1.06 1.08 1.08	1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 100	M M M M M M M M M M	888888888888888888888888888888888888888	Surface Spring Surface Boot lip Spring Boot lip Mag. Spring Mag. Side Side, Foid over & Quick Disconnect	FFF GGGGGG
ARCHER	Tandy Corp. Tameway Tower. Bridge Street, Waisall, West Mids.	21.904	ŝŝ	0.6	50	м	B	¾" thread	D
AVANTI	CB Radio Centre Ltd., 337 Kenton Road, Harrow, Middlesex	AV 241 AV 241T AV 241M AV 241M AV 241MM	\$5 \$5 \$5 \$5 \$5	1.22 1.22 1.22 1.22 1.22		M M M M	8 8 8 8	Stud Trunk Mag. Meg.	DEEG
BANDIT	Telecomms, 189 London Road, North End, Portamouth	B10 B15 B20 B30 B30 B30 B40 B40 B60 B60 B60		1.42 0.61 1.22 1.42 1.42 1.22 1.42 1.22 1.42 1.22 1.42 1.22		2222222222	*****	Mag. Mag. Mirror Drill Thru Drill Thru Various Various Various Various	044.420000
BREMI UK LTD.	Unit 5. Innage Park, Holly Lans Industrial Estate, Atherstone, Warks.	B27S C27S HB27S	SS SS AL	1.62 1.3B 1.55	1000 1000 1000	M M B	B C T	∯s" thread ∯s" thread Pole	COL
CB SERVICES	97 Crab Lane, Harrogate, North Yorks.	Bullwhip Knockledoster	SS AL	1.6 1.5	240	MB	8 8	Various	CD
COMMTEL	Near Third Drove, Fengate, Paterborough	Rocket Shuttle Starlight Shuttle Star Signal saarcher Massonger Signel keeper	SS FG SS AL SS SS	1.6 1.5 1.5 1.6 1.6 1.5 1.5		N N N B B B B B	B B B C W B B B B B	%" thread %" thread %" thread Clamp Pole Clamp Tripod	ŧ
FREEMAN AND PARODE	Tythinn Road, Ardan Forest Ind. Est, Alcenter. Warks.	Invadar Thunderpola II Thunderpola III	AL AL A1	1.5 1.5 1.65	250 500 500	B B B	B B C	Pole Pole Pole	E F F
GAMMA AERIAL PRODUCTS	Lye, West Midlands. (0384 891132/891474)	Skybreaker Avenger Lofty Skybreaker II Avenger II Lofty II Firefly	AL AL AL AL AL SS	1.6 1.5 7.5 1.66 1.86 1.85 1.66	A State	88888 8888 8888 800	###0000	Pole Brecket Pole Bracket 2%'' thread	DCONME

NOILON

NER N



na 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 %" thread usually will fit a range of mounts.

KEY Construction SS — Steinless Steet AL — Aluminium FG — Fibreglass Type B — Base M — Mobile	T — Top C - C — Centre D - B — Base E - CW — Continuously wound F - Price Bends G -	- £5.£9.99 - £10.£14.99 - £15.£19.99 - £20.£24.99 - £25.£29.99 - £30.£39.99 - £40 plus.	CONSTRUCTION	H	POWER		LOADING	-	1
NAME	ADDRESSES	MODEL	CONS	LENGTH	MAX	TYPE	LOA	MOUNT	1
HAM	Dials Wholesale, Unit 8, Block 2, Whitegate Indust. Est., Bathgate, West Lothian	Bałcostar OV27 DV27TW	AL FG FG	1.2 1.39 1.19	200 100 100	B M M	C T T	Bracket	DBB
HOT ROD	Stateside Trading Ltd. Audley Avenue, Newport,	FM UK	65	1.27	南山南	м	в	%" Thread	8
LES WALLEN MANF.	Pembroke Works, Ramsgate Road, Sandwich,	Modulator LC M.O.X. Long M.O.X Short Mini M.O.X. Mini 27 T-Bolt Saturn Exper	SSSSSSS SSSSSS AL	1.65 2.00 1.65 1.10 1.40 0.83 1.00 1.00	1000 1000 1000 100 500 200 500 1000	M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M	BBBBBCC	3/4" Thread 3/4" Thread 3/4" Thread 3/4" Thread 3/4" Thread 3/4" Thread 3/4" Thread 9/4" Thread 9/4" Thread 9/4" Thread 9/4" Well	CCCBBBDF
R.W. BADLAND LTO.	Rostan Trading Estate, Providence Street, Lye, Stourbridge, West Midlands (Lye 3160/5051)	Rebel 1 Rebel 1 Rebel Reider Robel Bullet Red Oevil	55 55 55 55 55	1.5 1.5 1.6 0.61 1.62	500 500 500 50 50 50	M M M M	B C B CW	% "Threed % "Threed % "Threed % "Threed % "Threed % "Threed	and a second
REVCO	Telecomms, 189 London Road, North End. Portsmouth	Revco	S 5	1.0	100	м	8	Various	в
ŞMC	Rumbridge Street, Totton Street, Hants	Oscar CBA 11GP Oscar 11V11S11 Oscar 11CM Oscar 11CE Oscar 11CE Oscar 11SE Oscar 11SE	55 55 55 55 55 55 55	1.5 1.5 1.2 1.6 1.6 1.6		B B M M M M M	8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	Mag. Foldover Base Pull op Foldover Bese	FFDCCCB
TAGRA	CB Radio Centre. 337 Kenton Road, Middlesex.	T40	S \$	1.4	500	м	Bett	Various	E
THORO'BRED	Pixtron UK Ltd, 10 Victoria Street, Newark, Notta. (0636-74688 Telex: 377627)	Z 27 Z Mag 251 C 27 C Mag HQ	SS SS SS SS PVC	1.52 1.62 1.60 1.50 1.60 1.58	1700 1700 100 1700 1700 1700	M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M	B B C C T	% [™] Thread 3 [™] Dia Magnet 5 [™] Dia Magnet % [™] Thread 5 [™] Dia Magnet Pole	1 0
VALOR	W.T.A. Electronics Ltd. 111 Cromer Road, Hellesdon, Norwich (0603.47694)	Warrior 650 Half Breed 520 Half Breed 510 Heif Breed 500 Dial-a-Metch 640 Dial-A-Metch 530 Rubber Duck 300 Pro Am PLB 27 Road Hog 335 Road Hog 335 Road Hog 337 Road Hog 337 Road Hog 831 Road Hog 838 Road Hog 835 Road Hog 835 Road Hog 835 Black Magic 333 Black Magic 333 Black Magic 833	55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55	$\begin{array}{c} 1.52\\ 1.52\\ 1.2\\ 0.9\\ 1.2\\ 0.6\\ 0.35\\ 1.52\\ 1.52\\ 1.52\\ 1.52\\ 1.52\\ 1.52\\ 1.52\\ 1.52\\ 1.52\\ 0.9\\ 1.2\\ 1.52\\ 0.76\\ 1.2\\ 1.52\\ 0.76\\ 1.2\\ 1.52\\ 0.76\\ 1.2\\ 1.52\\ 0.76\\ 1.2\\ 1.52\\ 0.76\\ 1.2\\ 1.52\\ 0.76\\ 1.2\\ 0.76\\ 1.2\\ 0.76\\ 1.2\\ 0.76\\ 1.2\\ 0.76\\ 1.2\\ 0.76\\ 1.2\\ 0.76\\ 1.2\\ 0.76\\ 1.2\\ 0.76\\ 1.2\\ 0.76\\ 1.2\\ 0.76\\ 1.2\\ 0.76\\ 0.5\\ 0.5\\ 0.5\\ 0.5\\ 0.5\\ 0.5\\ 0.5\\ 0.5$	1500 1500 1500 1500 1500 1500 1500 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 500 5	22222222222222222222222	C B B B C W B T T T T T T T T T T T T T T	* Thread * Thread	
WTA	W.T.A. Electronics Ltd. 111 Cromer Road. Hellesdon, Norwich. (0603 47654)	Wot Pole 1 Wot Pole II Wot Stick 1 Wot Stick II	AL AL SS SS	1.5 1.5 1.5 1.5 1.5	1000 1000 1000 1000	Ð B M M	8 8 8 8	Pole Pole %" Thread %" Thread	BCAB
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