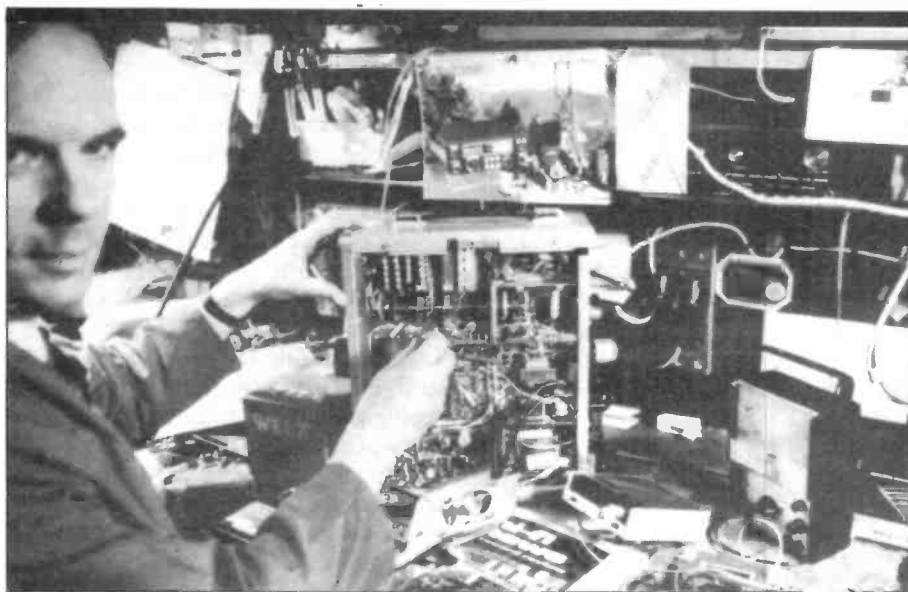


The FT101 series of transceivers still represent some of the best value for money to be had in secondhand HF gear.



Even the earliest versions are worth acquiring while a few simple modifications will bring the sets up to present day performance standards. *By Harry Leeming G3LL*

Taking apart the FT101



"I'm just ringing up to see if you have any second-hand *FT101s* in stock."

The *FT101** must be the most sought-after piece of second-hand gear on the amateur radio market, and as the line seems destined to come to an end with the demise of the *FT101ZD*, it would seem an appropriate time to look back at, and discuss, this extremely popular unit.

Yaesu's original sales literature seems to indicate that the *FT101* was aimed at the Yank who had two homes, a large automobile, travelled around a lot, and wanted a second rig which would run from DC or AC supplies, fixed or mobile. Considering its power and versatility, the *FT101's* size and weight was a revelation in its time. Old heads wagged and predicted that it just wasn't possible, "the power supply is too small". They were wrong. Hundreds of thousands of users including now many of the original doubters have vindicated Yaesu and the *FT101* has proved to be one of