

# RADIO TODAY

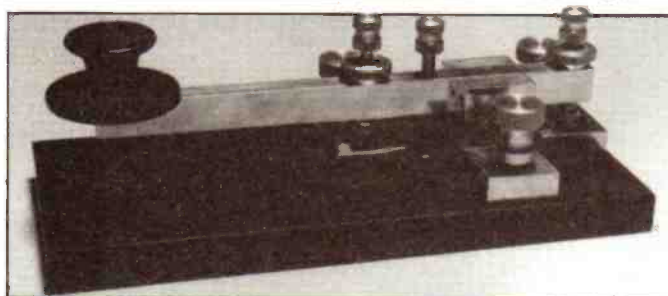
The WINNER of our competition for a Dewsbury Electronics Starmaster key is Peter Robinson of Cambridge, whose choice was A, F, G, L, O, S. Congratulations!

## Straight Key Evening - The Results

Were you on 80m CW on 30th May? If not, you missed out on an evening of spring madness using the oldest implement in the history of wireless telegraphy.

GB4HRT was there with an FT101E running at 100W into a 30m long wire from the QTH of the Milton Keynes DARS. Many thanks to the club for their superb hospitality. Various members of the club could be heard using the call to give a rather weary G3ZZD a rest. GB4HRT had been on the air all day on 80m and 2m and the strain was beginning to tell, not least on the quality of his CW. The station key, a GW morse key, was put into good use until 2230 when we had to close down.

The event was an unqualified success with some stations going strong till well after



midnight. All ages were represented with superb CW coming from both ends of the call-sign spectrum - G4WLG and G6TQ were G3MCK's votes for the best fist. Also given honourable mention by G3MCK, who used a valve crystal oscillator/power amplifier transmitter at 35W, was Julia, G4UOW.

QRP was well represented by Les, G3UI, and Brian, GM4XQJ, both using 3W, the former with a Project Omega transceiver. Equipment was a mixture of homebrewed and commercial, the contacts made by GB4HRT being about 60/40 in favour of the

latter.

As regards the activity level, the only way GB4HRT could have worked all the stations calling would have been to descend to contest style operation, a sentiment shared by others including SKE supreme and originator G3SJE of the Edgware DARS.

Many thanks to all those who took part and I have the pleasure of rewarding the GW morse key to G3EFR, the station with the most best 'fist' mentions in participating stations letters. See you next year?

G3ZZD

## Lundy DXpedition

As part of their tenth anniversary, members of Newport ARS, GW4EZW, will be visiting Lundy Island in the Bristol Channel from 21st to 28th September. 13 operators will be going and will be on all bands 160m to 70cm. They hope to be on the air throughout the period so as to obtain as many awards as possible. WAB contacts are particularly welcome as five operators are members. DX-CC and 4-2-70 awards will also be attempted.

The callsign to listen out for is GB4LIE — Lundy Island Expedition — and the equipment to be used for HF is an FT77, FT707, TS520S, for 2m an FT480 plus a linear and an Icom 290H and for 70cm an FT790 and a linear. A 60 foot tower is being transported by boat for the HF beams.

Skeds and any other information can be arranged and obtained before their departure, via PO box 33, Gwent, or telephone (02912) 6867. Special QSL cards will be available through the RSGB bureau or direct to the PO box.

This may be one of the last opportunities for working Lundy Island as the helicopter service is being discontinued from the end of September. After then, the only means of getting across to the island will be via the boats.

● The Civil Service ARS intend operating two special event stations under the callsign GBOCSR on 7th and 8th September. The first day will be from the Central Ordnance Depot, Chilwell, and on Sunday from the Civil Service Sports Ground in Nottingham. The station will be operating on HF 80 to 10m and hopefully 2m.

## The CEPT Common Licence

As revealed in last month's HRT, an agreement has been reached between fourteen of the CEPT member countries on a common amateur radio licence. Although administrative details have not been finalised, what this will mean in practice is that reciprocal licences will become a thing of the past: your ordinary amateur radio licence will be valid in any of the participating countries.

There will be two classes of International licence, Class 1 and Class 2. Class 1 will correspond to the UK Class A licence and Class 2 to the VHF-only

licence (UK Class B). Intermediate licence holders will be restricted to Class 2 privileges when operating outside their own country. When operating in another country which belongs to the agreement, the format of your call sign will be country prefix/home call (eg OE/G4IIF or F/G1HRT). However, the agreement will apply to mobile and portable operation only, but that the definition of portable will include operation from temporary premises as well as from a temporary location.

Hans Berg, DJ6TJ, International Liaison Officer of the DARC, estimates that it will take about twelve months for the final details to be worked out, as there is still

considerable paperwork to be completed between the various national administrations. It is also not quite clear at this stage as to what form the actual licence will take, and whether the participating countries will issue amateur radio licences in a common format or not. If not, then we will need to have some kind of 'International Amateur Radio Licence Document', possibly issued by the IARU member societies.

This historic agreement is a landmark in amateur radio, and reflects the considerable effort put in by Dr John Allaway, G3FKM, and his co-workers in IARU Region 1, and they deserve our warmest congratulations at their achievement.