

P5 NEWSLETTER

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Welcome to this issue of P5. I would like to take this opportunity in welcoming all new members who have joined recently and those who have

subscribed for another year. The AGM on the 30th April 1998, was very successfully with a good attendance. Your elected committee for 1998 and contact details have been listed below:-

Chairman - Paul Stevenson G8YMM
Email g8ymm@cableinet.co.uk
Packet g8ymm@gb7tjz

Secretary - Mike Stevens G7GTN
13 Downs Road
Westbury
Bristol BS9 3TX

Treasurer - Allan Tink G7DRU
Email g7dru@cableinet.co.uk

Chief Engineer - Ian Bennett G6TVJ
Email g6tvj@cableinet.co.uk

Site Engineer - Ivor Green G1IXF

Aerial Sales - Matthew Bell G0ECN
18 Linnet Close
Patchway
Bristol BS12 3ZRN

Engineer - Ross Wilkinson G0WJR
Email Ross.Wilkinson@bristol.ac.uk

Projects/Editor P5 - Frank Field G0CEN
19 THE MAPLES,
Nailsea
Bristol BS48 4RT

Alternative you can usually call via the TV repeaters or on 144.750 the ATV talk back frequency.

Baby News !!

Not that its very inspiring or technical, I thought it was time you had an update on our new Baby called Peter.



As you can see he may or may not look like me but he is demanding gets up to all sorts of tricks to get attention. So for this year my radio activities have been curtailed.

The group attended two rallies, the BATC and Longleat. We had good sales at both events and as

always credit to Matthew for the Aerials and the members who helped with the stand. Ross G0WJR and I also gave two talks on ATV, one at Swindon ARC the other, South Bristol ARC. All the talks were well attended and we generated sales and new membership. The repeaters are working, although as mentioned in the last P5 a major overhaul of GB3ZZ Aerials will be required around September time. We will require assistance so if you can help let us know.

DIARY

Bristol Radio Rally
6th September 98
Brunel Engine Shed
Templemeads Railway Station
Bristol



ATV Contest see attached sheet.

OBITUARY

Its is with deep regret that Honouree Member John Pearce G6GNG has passed away peacefully after a long illness. John, although not active in ATV donated to the group his Caravan for the contests which he gladly towed for us. John was known for his encouragement, enthusiasm and generous supported with the radio activities in and around Bristol and will be sadly missed. The Severnside TV group would like to send their deepest condolences to Johns wife Clare and family.

Yours Truly will have testing
Equipment and other bits and
pieces at

The BRISTOL RALLY so if
You make a purchase on the
Second hand stalls I may be
Able to test it for you.

Equipment at the rally will be a
test meter ,dummy load, power
supply,13.8,and variable, antenna
and absorption wave meter, grid
dip oscillator, swr meter, tools and
wires, etc., etc. This has been
used to best use. In previous rally,
s and a lot of time and trouble
saved by many people, on faulty
goods.

See you there

FRANK GOCEN

P.S BRISTOL RADIO RALLY
SUN SEPT 6TH 1998

NOTES ON THE N E C
AMATUER RADIO FORUM
HELD ON 24 JULY 98 AT
N E C BIRMINGHAM,

OF THE 63,000 AMATUER
LICENCES ISSUED 400
PEOPLE got tickets and attended,
a large number had not been given
the opportunity and the sub
contractors were asked why.

It was CHAIRED BY
MR MICHEAL CAIN, and radio
societies, ssl, and others at the top
table asked questions of those
attending.

The R A said they had no plans to
increase the Licence fee, or take
any large chunks of spectrum.

As far as repeaters are concerned
there are difficulties in certain
arrears he said but RA are working
with R S G B to simplify
procedures. R An are also looking
at current views on deregulation
and are looking at the planning
phase.

On Morse, he said that he doesn't
propose to address it here but
asked for views. He brought up the
WORLD Radio Conference in
2003 at which will be discussed
the discontinuation of the MORSE
TEST! . There is much to be
considered. R A are currently in
discussion with the R S G B but no
firm decision has yet been reached.
He added that Amateur Radio is an
international matter.

They are considering the New
Zealand proposal. He mentioned
TR6101/6102 and 12 w.p.m. He
finished by saying he looks
forward to a healthy debate. He
concluded by saying "It's your
service, you're our customers and
this is your opportunity to make
your views known.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT
3.10PM

International Television Contest

September 12th/13th 1998

The Group is putting in an entry to this event, and is seeking support from the members, to either (or both!):

help set up and operate the Group contest station, **G7ATV/P**,

or:

make contacts with **G7ATV/P** from your home stations, or from other portable sites on as many bands as possible.

The venue will be Hill Farm, on the Mendips, near East Harptree (directions given below), near the *Castle of Comfort Inn*. The contest begins at 7pm (BST) Saturday, and runs until 1pm Sunday, but obviously help will be needed too during Saturday and on Sunday afternoon to set up and dismantle the station. All are very welcome to come along anytime between 6:30pm on Friday and 4pm on Sunday. Refreshments are available from the nearby pub, (only half a mile away) which serves good beer and food.

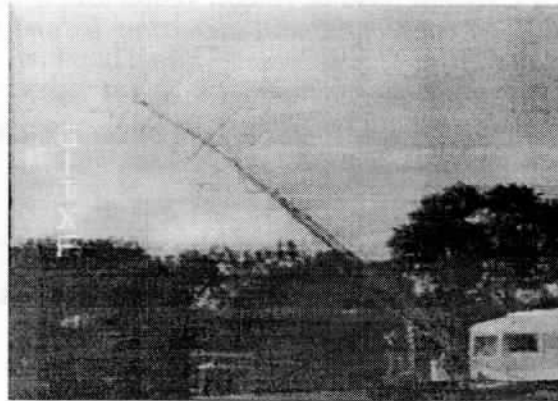
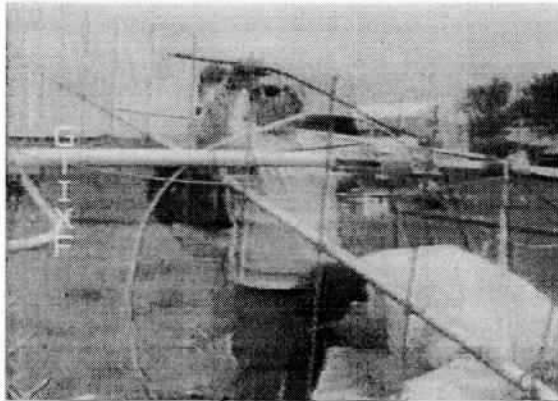
Directions to the site:

Proceed South from Bristol on the A38. Turn left at the traffic lights at Churchill, and head East on the A368 for approx 3km.

Turn right at Burrington, onto the B3134, and proceed for approx. 10km.

Look out for the *Castle of Comfort Inn* on the right, and turn left onto an unclassified road immediately opposite.

About 1km down this road you will see a large microwave tower covered with dish aerials; the contest station will be in one of the fields nearby. If you get lost, give us a shout on the 2m talkback!

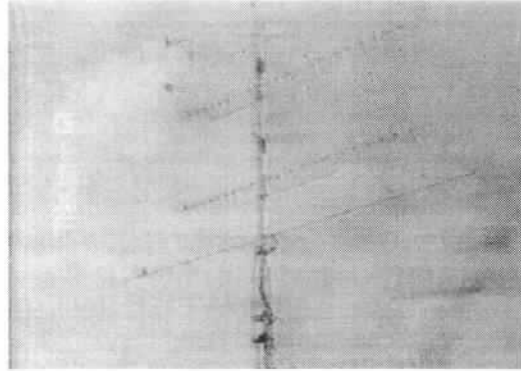


Accommodation: if you would like to stay overnight, there will be plenty of space for camping on site, and the Group's caravan will be there also.

Operation will be on AM (vestigial sideband) on 70cms, and on FM on 23, 13 and 3cm, with talkback on or around 144.750 FM on 2m. Contacts on 2.3 and 10GHz are especially valuable, and count for extra points (10 per km distance), so how about finding a suitable hilltop with a good path towards the Mendips? Our location is IO81QG, NGR ST 547536, and is about 950 ft asl.

Equipment in use includes:

4x21 ele Tonnas at 18m agl, providing 35 kW peak ERP on 70cm,
4x48 ele loop yagis at 20m agl, providing 8 kW ERP on 23cm,
single 60cm dish at 20m agl, providing about 2 kW EIRP on 3cm,
plus 25 ele Tonna, giving up to 60 W EIRP on 13cm.



Please make an effort to contact us on as many bands as possible, all points will be gratefully received. Have your Code number captions ready (large and clear, with good contrast), as detailed in the Rules below, and your locator. Come up to the site too, if you can, and have a go at portable contest operation yourself.

The Rules state that each contest exchange must consist of the following:

a) **A code number.** *"For each band used, a transmitting station shall choose a four-figure code group that shall not change throughout the contest. The four figures shall neither be the same (eg. 2222) nor consecutive (eg. 4567 or 5432). Stations using such groups shall be disqualified.*

THIS CODE GROUP SHALL BE EXCHANGED IN VIDEO ONLY AND SHALL NOT BE TRANSMITTED BY ANY OTHER MODE THAN VISION.

On different bands, a different code group - obeying the above rules - must be used. Only one contact is allowed with each station per band."

b) **Callsign** (also in video), **vision and sound report + contact serial number** (*starting with 001 on each band, and increasing by one for each successive contact*), and **Locator** (also in video).

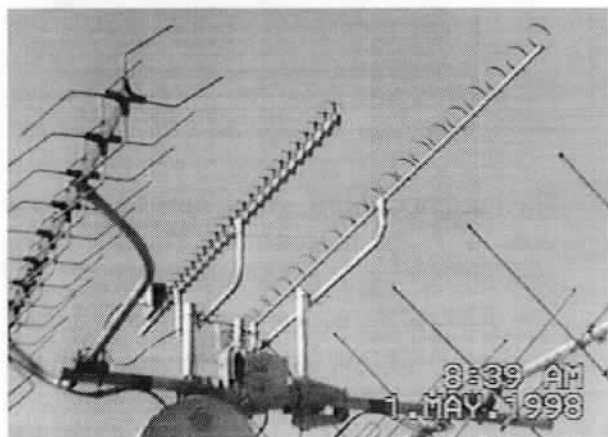
"Operation via repeaters does not constitute a valid contest contact"

We hope to see you there, and/or on our screens over the weekend! The Group has won this event in the past; let's see if we can do so again!

Viv G1IXE
Ivor G1IXF
Ross G0WJR

Crossband 23cm and 13cm television tests

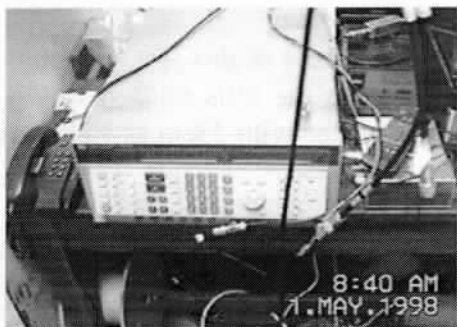
After sampling the pleasures of FM television on 3cm and 23cm, the logical progression was to try the 13cm (2.3 GHz) band. I had borrowed an American S-band downconverter and a Tonna beam from my colleagues in the Group, and back in February had received a picture from G1IXF on the band, but the path between us was blocked by a couple of buildings.



23cm and 13cm aerials at G3KAC on the roof of Bristol University

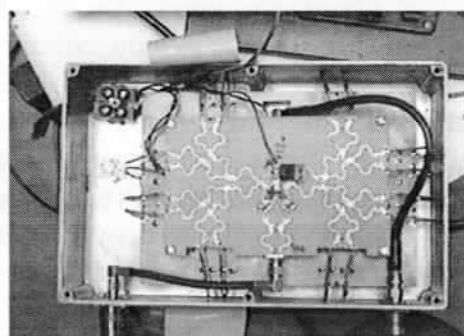
More recently, Phil G1HIA had a synthesized transmitter on loan from Ian G6TVJ, and I was able to receive P5 pictures from this.

In order to transmit back, I was able to borrow a signal generator with wideband FM capability from the Communications Research Laboratory at the University, where I work. I only needed to add a video pre-emphasis network and a PA.



The world's most expensive 13cm FM transmitter? Certainly the heaviest!

I was also fortunate in being able to borrow a prototype power amplifier, built by a colleague, which would give 1 watt output for 1mW in. This was mounted in a die-cast box on the mast, to reduce the effect of feeder losses.



Wideband 1 watt PA, using 16 MMIC amplifiers

On the morning of May 4th, I had all the equipment installed in the shack, and sent P5 colour pictures to Phil, who was simultaneously transmitting back on 23cm. The picture below was received from Phil on 23cm, and consists of the live picture received from me on 13cm, with a live picture from his camera inset. We had some fun that morning, as you can see!



Off-air 23cm picture from G1HIA, relaying 13cm picture from G3KAC

Thanks to Phil for getting up early(?), and to Ian, Ivor and Dave Bennett for the loan of equipment used in the tests.

Ross Wilkinson G0WJR, May 1998

P5 NEWSLETTER

LETTERS



Over the last few months I have been receiving lots of Email from Michael Sheffield ZL1ABS in New Zealand. As the articles are of a technical nature I will publish them from time to time.

N B ARC COACH TRIP

TO LEICESTER RALLY @ CASTLE DONINGTON, EXHIBITION CENTER

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26th LEAVE BREAMAR CRESCENT

8am return by approx 7pm

FARE £ 8.50.

A DEPOSIT OF £4 POUNDS OR FULL FARE WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

CONTACT ERIC G2FXO TEL. 01454-615271

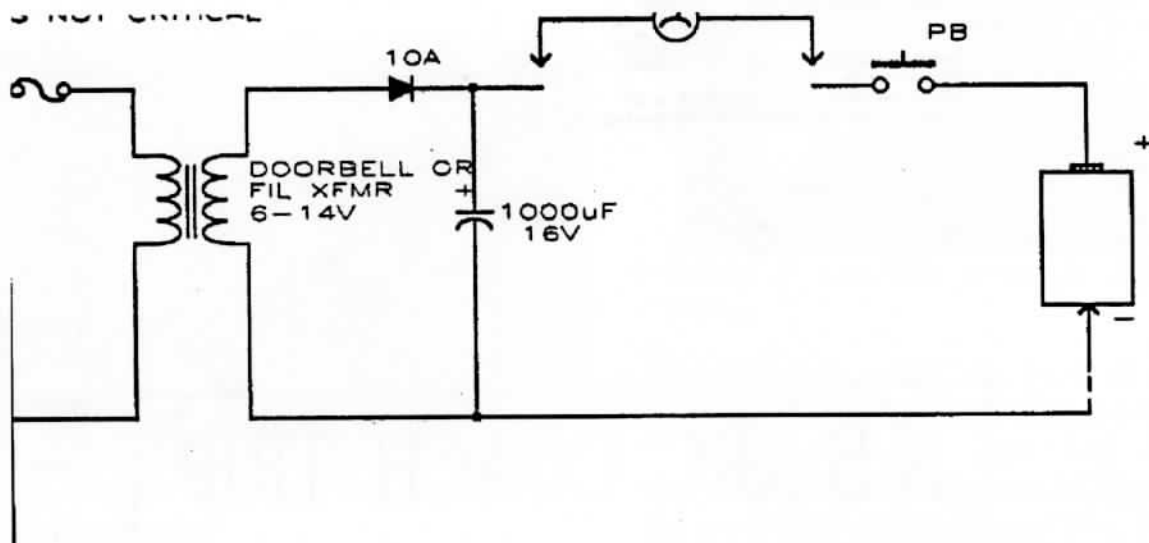
This ni-cad ZAPPER which is cheap to build and easy to use, is well and truly tested by me and has been used to rejuvenate many badly charged batteries.

It works by destroying internal shorts in the cells.

push button for up to 3 seconds only.

Please do not use to charge up batteries.

Obviusly we except no responsability for any calamities.



NI--CAD ZAPPER

Charging ni-cads can be a problem when using a dedicated charger as the VOLTAGE of the charge is chosen so low in value. Sometimes a variable voltage charger with current limiting is going to give much better results.

frank

1998-34