

P5

The newsletter of the
Sevenside Television Group

March 2001

Chairman's Report

As we approach our AGM on 10th April 2001, I would like to thank all the members who have supported the group, over the past year.

As most of you know there were no volunteers for the post of chairman last year. I approached the committee to see if I could help them out with the limited time I have to spare these days due to other commitments like grandchildren etc.

Ian has worked hard at maintaining GB3ZZ which continues to give a good signal in and out despite vandals gaining access to the roof and breaking off 2 of our aerials.

Hopefully by the time you receive this P5, the weather sat pictures will be up and running again on ZZ thanks to Jim GW3PYX. The code for weather sat is *60#. P5 continues to be published four times a year. This gives the editor, Brian, a major headache along with the rest of the committee, if you have any articles relating to A.T.V. Please send to Brian, or P5 will become less frequent.

GB3XG: during the spring of 2001 building work will be taking place at the site of 'XG. Hopefully this will not interrupt our service, but we may well take this opportunity to replace the TX with a new one that Ken G4BVK & Ian G6TVJ have built and also carry out repairs to the RX, plus renewing R.F cables & connections as required.

A big thank you to Jim GW3PYX who has handled all the sales for the group aerials. Prices are still held at £26 for the 38 ELE & £15 for the standard plus post & packing £4 per aerial. Enquires for aerials to S.T.G., Beechwood Drive, Penarth, Vale of Glamorgan . CF64 3RB. Delivery by parcel post is on average about 7 days from receipt of order & cheque being cleared.

International Contest 2000

The B.A.T.C has revived the contest calendar the A.T.V. contest which we took part in last September, once again from the Mendips in Somerset running 10GHZ 2.3GHZ and 1.3GHZ A.T.V. By the skin of our teeth we just managed to win the UK section. If we are to continue with the contest we need all of your support by giving us signals on the day. Please remember it is on the contest a lot of the development work is carried out & tested for the first time, later to be incorporated in the repeaters. Hopefully you can all remember the big improvements made to the RX of 'ZZ. Its only under strong R.F. conditions from really good locations that we can try new ideas out. Our next contest will be on the 9th & 10th June 2001

Finally

We have incorporated with this P5 a nomination form for the 2001 committee. We certainly need your help, especially on the Bristol side of the Severn Bridge, if we are going to continue to operate 'ZZ & 'XG repeaters. I have enclosed the membership form for the year 2001/2002, all subscriptions are due in April. Please return to the secretary at the address on the form. A.S.A.P. and try & persuade all those who use 'ZZ or 'XG to become members of our group. This years AGM takes place at The Pavilion, Filton, Bristol at 7.45pm.

See you there.

Viv, G1IXE. Chairperson.

Annual General Meeting – 10th April 2001

Formal notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting of The Severnside Television Group. This will take place on Tuesday 10th April 2001 at 7:30pm, at Elm Park Parish Pavilion, Elm Park, Filton, Bristol.

All members are asked to attend the meeting. Guests and non-members are welcome to attend, but only fully paid-up members will be able to participate by speaking or voting.

Nominations

Nominations are now invited for the following posts: Chairman, Chief Engineer & Vice Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and up to five committee members. All nominations must be deposited in writing with the Secretary (who is currently Mrs Pat Hellen, 7 Cotswold Way, Risca, Gwent, NP11 6QT) no later than 30th March 2001. Nominations must be proposed and seconded by two fully paid up members of the Group, and the nominee who must also be a fully paid up member of the Group, must indicate their agreement to serve in the capacity indicated if elected.

You may nominate someone for more than one post, the elections take place in the order given above and the nominee must accept the first two post to which they are elected. A member cannot hold more than two posts.

In the event of more than one nomination being received for any Officers post, or more than five nominations being received for committee members posts, a secret ballot will be held at the AGM. A suitable nomination form is included in this edition of "P5" but the use of this is not obligatory. Nominations will be sought at the AGM for the non-committee post of Honorary Auditor.

Resolutions

Members wishing to propose Resolutions at the AGM must submit them in writing to the Secretary no later than 30th March 2001. Each resolution must be proposed and seconded by two fully paid up members of the Group, who should be prepared to address the AGM when the resolution is discussed. Members should note that whilst there will be an

opportunity to discuss minor matters under "Any Other Business" at the AGM, constitutional or major matters must be submitted in advance as a formal resolution.

Subscriptions

Members are reminded that all annual subscriptions become due after the AGM. A suitable renewal form is included with this issue of "P5", and all members are asked to renew promptly. The rate will be set at the AGM.

Current Committee

For your information, the current committee is:
Chairperson, Mrs. Viv Green G1IXE.
Chief Engineer and Vice Chairman, Ian Bennett, G6TVJ.
Honorary Secretary, Mrs. Pat Hellen.
Honorary Treasurer, Mrs. Jackie Thorne.
Committee members, Ivor Green G1IXF, David Brown GW0ROL, Roger Crowley GW4UGI, Jim Chetcuti GW3PYX, Brian Kelly GW6BWX.

Editors bit.

Above you see the legalese version of the notification that the Club is due for its annual committee reshuffle. It may well be that you are not particularly concerned with who hold committee positions as long as the repeaters stay on the air and your copy of P5 drops on the doormat every few months. If this is how you feel, let me issue a warning to you. Without the committee the whole lot folds up without trace instantly and without your participation and votes, the committee can't exist. It isn't an idle caution either, as both repeater licenses are held by committee members and without them, GB3ZZ and GB3XG have to be closed down immediately. In addition, the Club funds are banked in accounts which require more than one signature from committee members in order to deposit or withdraw money. If the Committee ceases to function, not only do we lose the repeaters but access to the Clubs cash reserve is withdrawn too. These are conditions set by powers outside the Group and we have no power to change them. Consequently, the future of the whole Severnside Television Group is in your hands. Please don't sit back and assume someone else will look after everything – get involved yourself. You don't need any special qualifications to join the Committee, we are all just ordinary people who decided to make a difference. That's something you can do too so why not give it a try. Even if you decline the offer to join the Committee, please take the time to complete the nomination form and attend the AGM. It matters, it really matters.

Brian. GW6BWX

MEMBER PROFILE:

JIM. GW3PYX



Over the next few issues we hope to include "member profiles" to tell readers a little about each other. The series starts by introducing Jim, one of the STG committee members.

The first photo is from 1961 and shows me sitting at a table with my first set of amateur radio equipment. On the table is an AR88 receiver and along side it is a HB top band TX. Under the table is an HF all band AM transmitter.

The photo below was taken 40 years later and shows me by my more modern all mode HF transceiver and my weather satellite equipment.



The photo on the left was taken from the Barry and District Newspaper and shows me at last years Barry Radio Rally. This was the first time ATV was demonstrated live at the Rally.

GW3PYX Was first licensed in 1961 and since then has operated on the HF bands with regular contacts with Amateurs in Australia and New Zealand. Since the 1980's he has operated a Weather Sat Station with high resolution images being received continuously.

He became interested in ATV in 1996 and now operates on 23cms and 3cms ATV.

Dates for your Diary:

- Sunday 25th March: The Welsh Amateur Radio Show (aka the Barry Rally). **This has been postponed until 16th September.**
- Tuesday 10th April: The Severnside Television Group AGM at 7:45pm
- Sunday 6th May: BATC Rally at Bletchley Park. See www.batc.org.uk for details.
- Weekend 9th & 10th June ATV Contest. From the Mendip site if access is allowed.



Help Needed – Part 1.

With P5 to produce, articles to write for CQ-TV and a repeater to build, all while working full time, I'm finding it difficult to cope with my work load. I could do with help from someone familiar with programming in Visual C++ who could take care of coding the serial port and video routines for the new repeater. A full specification can be provided. This will free up some of my time to concentrate on completing the hardware construction. Please e-mail me at betwixtbbs@cs.com.

Help Needed – Part 2

You will no doubt have noticed the "Member Profile" article. I would like to include these in future issues of P5 but need you to send me some information about yourself. Ideally, I need two or three photographs (black & white or colour) and a brief description of what they show. I also need a paragraph or two about yourself. Don't worry if you feel unable to write down the exact words for the article, I can take care of composing it as long as you give me a few dates and enough description to work from. If you can contact me by email, I can receive text and pictures as file attachments. If you can't, send them by post and I'll return any photographs as soon as I've scanned them into electronic format. My postal address is: 12 Cotswold Way, Risca, Gwent. NP11 6QT or you can email me at betwixtbbs@cs.com.

G1HIA's ATV Tests from The Isle of Man.

I arrived on the Island from Liverpool at 11.30 in the evening to a snow covered Island. The drive to my sister in laws home was done in 4 wheel drive, I did not expect to be using that until I got up the mountain roads.

Having hooked up with Stan GD3LSF on the next day he informed me that we could not get up to Snaefell Mountain as the engineers were aborted by a ten foot snow drift earlier in the week.

Things were not going as planned but worse was yet to come as the Police had closed the Mountain roads.

On my first evening I took to the outer ring road and made my way up to a car park area I had previously seen GB3TM from, (SC415.818) P3 into GB3TM with 12 watts into an Alford slot things were looking up bearing in mind we were at a 500m short fall in expected height,

Thanks to the reports by MW0BLU, GW4KAZ, GW3MEO, GW0BCR, GW3JGA, GW0ABL, GW6KFH, All of who did not see me direct (later learned that some had filters in).

On the 8/3rd I met up with Stan GD3LSF the Islands Repeater keeper at location (SC199.672) we worked into southern Ireland and northern Ireland and again into Anglesey sadly into Southern Ireland only with the beam although we could see the two beacon /repeaters P5 with the Alford slot. We managed a First ever from this location with a P5 picture on 3cms from GI7RGM, Angus this is also a first 3cms out of northern Ireland, Well done Angus (he only just purchased the TX from Wyzcom that morning) 250 milliwatts. Many thanks to GI0UZG, GI6IXD, GI4RVT, EI9ED, EI6AS, GI7RGM, EI6XXD. STAN GD3LSF was most impressed with the quality of the pictures and the activity that exists in the ATV fraternity, Well done to you all and thanks for being there.

I was also pleased to hook up with Nigel now GM7JZP he had gone mobile to a sea level site and we worked P5 pictures with 800 milliwatts both ways with the Alford slot he also reduced his power to 40 milliwatts and I still seen him in colour P3 my location (NX456.919) 200m ASL, Nigel also worked Tony GI0UZG into Northern Ireland P5 both ways excellent Nigel and to Joannie (xyl) for braving the cold as I only know too well, for those that know Nigel he has been asked to help out with the test that

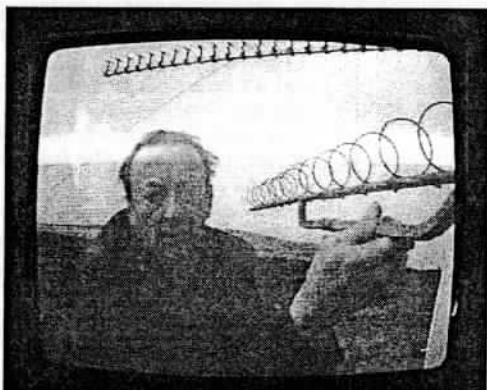
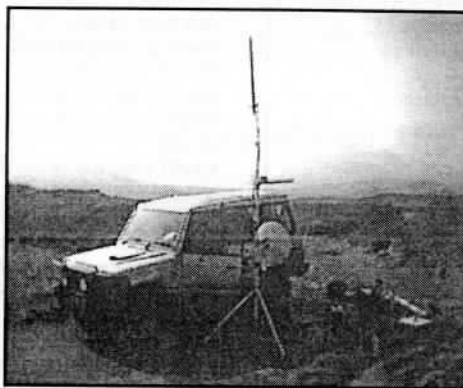
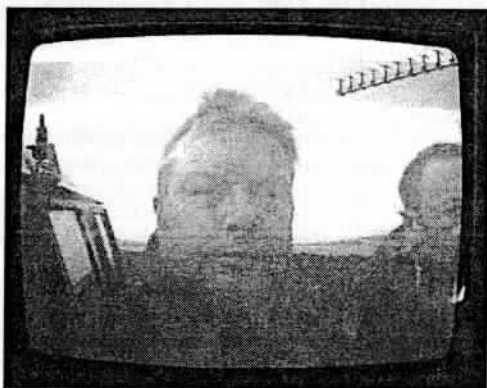
G1HIA's ATV Tests from The Isle of Man. (cont)

Tony is doing across the water with some local amateurs to Nigel so retirement for him hasn't affected his ATV enthusiasm.

I also went to the north west side of the Island at the request of Tony G10UZG and worked P5 with him on the Alford slot location (NX3 17.869) 250m ASL and we transmitted another first P2 picture into N/Ireland on 13cms with 800 milliwatts we also exchanged 23cms with 800 milliwatts P5 both directions. With the Severnside 18 element I even had the ant sat looking through the windscreen and received a P5 picture of Stephana, Tony's Daughter a little sweetie (not a monster as Tony describes). RESULTS:: having not had the best weather or location I think that if ever there was a repeater on the Island it would certainly be a tremendous signal throughout the United Kingdom and Eire and if at all possible I hope to fly out to the Island and run some tests from Snaefell in the summer when the weather can be guaranteed (famous last words).

Again many thanks to all the stations who were there lots of you who didn't get a mention and not least to Stan GD3LSF for your hospitality and the Isle Of Man repeater group who gave their permission for the test to go ahead 73s till the next time.

Phil Smith. WWW: <http://qsl.net/g1hia> mail: g1hia@qsl.net or ps35517@blueyonder.co.uk



Photographs of ATV activity in GD land:

Phil and Stan as seen by G10UZG (top left)
Nigel as seen by G10UZG (middle left)
Stan as seen by G10UZG (bottom left)
The pictures above are Phil's station as seen through the GB3TM repeater in North Wales.

P5 is edited by Brian Kelly, GW6BWX and published by Viv Green, G1IXE.

P5 is © by The Severnside TV Group but excerpts are permitted as long as full acknowledgement of source is given. Articles for publication should be sent to: P5 Editor, 12 Cotswold Way, Risca, Gwent. NP11 6QT or to betwixtbbs@cs.com.

FOR SALE - EQUIPMENT OF G7GTN

Mobile number 07866 402964 always switched on.

Trio TS700 2M multimode. A bit deaf complete with VOX and workshop manuals £120 and a Microphone of course!

AOR 3000A wideband scanner. Good condition with manual £230

13.8V PSU. Looks like a fork lift charger. Well OK it is! does about 20amps. Fan cooled. Weighs a ton £15
Sony HVS-2000P Video camera selector. Can be used to superimpose. £10

Sony leads CCK-4MP for the above £2 each

Advance AF/FM signal generator SG-63F scruffy condition £5

TRIO 9R-59DE hf receiver. Needs a rectifier valve £10

2M SWR bridge, built from an article in PW. Not sure if it works

but nicely built in diecast box £3

RSGB Blackbox RX homebrew receiver. No ideas £5

JPS NIR-10 Noise/interference reduction unit. £30

REVEX L20N Coaxial dummy load DC-500MHz 15w (avg) £5

PMR Conversion Handbook by G4HCL First edition £5

PMR conversion Handbook by G4HCL second edition £5

RSGB Practical Transmitters for novices £2

Solid state design for the radio ham. ARRL book £3

RSGB Tech topics 1985-1989 £4

RSGB Radio communication handbook 6th edition £5

Javelin NEWVICHIP B&W CCD Camera. Never used as requires 24V ac. £5 a few C-mount lenses chucked in for good measure. Not sure if it works or not!

Ferguson 3V41 Camera. Tube so does need more light. Camcorder part is certainly broken. £5

Sanyo 12" black & white TV rotary tuning £2

Sony Trinitron 14" colour portable. Working condition £10

9" Green screen composite monitor £5

Redifusion 14" Colour Monitor Good working order £20

Samsung 20" Colour Television composite video input £25

Philips 9" Colour Monitor. Mains switch is U/S, some rubber buttons also damaged. Ideal for spares £15

Philips 14" colour portable nasty scratch on screen £2

14" Colour portable mains switch hot-wired £5

14" Mono monitor Made by Bluebest £5

14" Mono Monitor £5

Microvitec CUB RGB monitor. Good working Order £5

ACER view 31. 14" VGA computer monitor. Good working order £10

Nec Multisync II. EGA computer monitor. £2

Toshiba BTR-5 Sat RX. With remote control £5

ITT sat RX. with remote control £5

Bob Platts RX mk1. Never got this one to work. It's the regulator?

Correct or not? anyway never mind £10 it's also in a case as well.

Logic probe £5

Expo PCB drill, no stand £5

Maplin Digital multimeter. Has to be said very cheap & nasty £5 Ideal to leave in the car in the hope of it being stolen. No not the car but that cheap & Nasty meter.

Fluke 70 digital autoranging meter. £25

Weller PS3D + IRON but non working £10 it's usually the thermostat in the iron that has gone.

Weller TCP bits for the above approx 30 assorted. £15 Usually around £2 + each

Small breadboard mounted on plastic case with variable PSU £5

Another small Breadboard £1

MiMH 2/3AA batteries with solder tags x 5 Maplin part no VN25 £5

ROSS RE381 stick style microphones £4 x 2

KENT brass morse key needs to be cleaned £12

Evolution MK149 Midi keyboard. Connects to a Soundblaster or similar. The rock lord gives up his musical career due to lack of talent! Well not so much to do with talent more time I think! £25

Fender Squire. Black. In hard flight case £140

19" 2U Instrument case, will accept 2 x 1U modules. £5

19" Card frame, complete with a few card guides £5

19" Card frame complete with PSU and Maplin PAL Coder module £20

Four drawer Filling cabinet. Ideal for use in the garage £5 "Don't try to buy this from me, as would have to venture into the garage and rescue it!"

FOR@A TG160 char inserters x 2 One with manual £10 without £5

Cropedy clone. Uses 2732 eeproms. In case £25

Cropedy clone testcard generator in tin plate case. Uses any 28pin eeproms. £25

Teletext board from TV. Has all the major SAA series chips. Go on build something with this £5

Another teletext board with all major chips on £5

SIMA screen writer. (need a couple of days to test and make sure this one is 100% working!) £10

Camlink Vision 300 video titler. Colour caption generator. Has rubber keyboard. Internal or external sync. Need a couple of days to test and make sure this one is 100% working!) £20

BATC 24CMs transmitter (never finished of course. But nicely built!) needs an MSA0685 to complete. Nice metal work in very smart case. This was a labour of love :-)

£20

Rainbow runner MJPEG video editing card for Matrox mystique £20

* Can only be used on the 4MB card * software leads & manual.

Pyro DV editing card. Never used with Ulead Videostudio software.

Compatible with DV & Digital 8.

Should also be compatible with Adobe Premiere 6.0 £50

GSE Video mouse fun. Panasonic 5 pin Sony Linc editing device complete with Windows software. Can also be used with Miro DC30 series editing cards to batch capture. £40

Panasonic SVHS Editing deck HS1000 with built in TBC Good condition hardly used. £180

Hanimex 28MM w/angle F/2.8 Pentax P42 mount. Never used

boxed £5

BBC Model B micros x 3 £5 each

5.4" Cumma disc drive for BBC Micro. Powered via beeb £5

Original IBM PC antique of the future? £5 no screen but keyboard and I think from memory 20MB hard drive :-)

AT Mini tower case. AT format not ATX £2

IBM PC. No idea on condition. no screen & probably no keyboard £2

Juki Daisywheel 6100. Certainly needs a new daisywheel and ribbons. Built like a tank and probably just as noisy £1

Pioneer MSX computer/Keyboard no data. £5

Toshiba T3100/20 laptop. No hard drive but boots to DOS from floppy.

Orange gas plasma display. £5

Parallel to parallel data cables very heavy duty x 3 £3 each

Maplin digital record and playback module. In plastic vero case with audio amplifier. Based on a UM5100 complete with paperwork £8

QUAD tuner, requires power pack. No real data on this one! £4

Yamaha cassette deck KX260. Good condition £25

Technics SL-D2 record deck. Good condition £25

Technical drawing pens 'Erograph - Germany' 0.5, 0.7 0.25, 1.0 set of four with ink £5

EASY-PC PCB design program. DOS based original A4 Manual. 5.4" discs + 3.5" back up copies. £10

VHF communications magazine, around 30 available £1 each.

BARTG Datacom magazines, around 30 available £1 each

SPRAT magazines, around 40 available 50 pence each.

15m (approx!) sat cable complete with 'F' types on each end. Also four core cable for polariser control £5

Mesh dish with mounting arm, Amstrad/Alba style £5

Really not interested in putting anything into the postal system.

Mike G7GTN