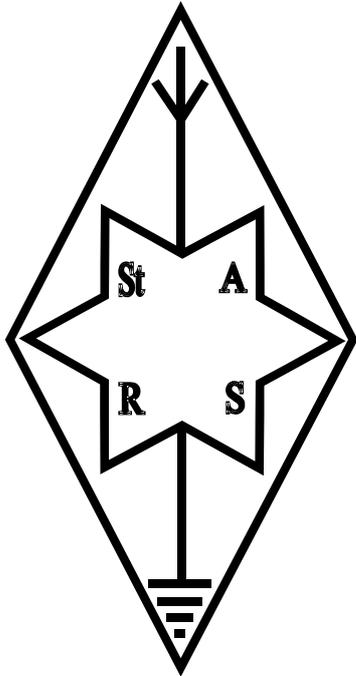


STARLITE

G6OI
1938

The Newsletter for Members and Friends of
**Stourbridge and District
Amateur Radio Society**
incorporating
Old Swinford Hospital School Radio Club

G6SRS
1938



G4CVK

1969

ISSUE
05/12



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STARLITE

MEETINGS

Visitors always welcome
The Society holds its full meetings on the
1st and 3rd Monday of each month at

**Old Swinford Hospital School
Heath Lane
Stourbridge
(8.00pm – 10.00pm)**

Additionally the shack is open during the same times on the
intermediate Mondays

Telephone Enquiries to :-
Hon Secretary
John Clarke M1EJG
(01562) 700513

Or by e-mail to :-
honsec@g6oi.org.uk

All correspondence/enquiries should be
addressed to the Hon. Secretary :-
STARS
c/o The Mill House
21 Mill Lane
Blakedown
Kidderminster
DY10 3ND

STARS Web Site URL :-
www.g6oi.org.uk



STARLITE

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

This month's main article is taken from the Stars Archives which are kept by John Scott.

We had an interesting talk this month by Peter Smith on the Titanic which sank around 100 years ago. As Peter said, giving a talk on the Titanic is difficult as most people think they know the story and the ending already. Despite Hollywood's rewrite of the story, Peter's talk helped to put right some of the "embellishments" that have taken place and also to debunk some of the conspiracy theories that exist.

Stars Titanic Connection!

Graham Collins wrote to John Scott (Apr 2012) seeking information on his late stepfather, Howard Littley, call signs LBX, LSX and later G2NV. Howard was a member of Stars in the early days and he is mentioned in the "Silent Keys" (see <http://www.g6oi.org.uk/starlite/Jan2004.pdf>). Graham only knew Howard under his G2NV call sign, but he vaguely recalled that Howard had a certificate on the wall of his radio room stating that he had received and relayed the distress signals from the Titanic, no less. After his retirement to the Isle of Wight, Howard became the President of the IoW Radio Society.

Graham enclosed a picture of Howard G2NV below which dates back to the late sixties. Thanks to Graham for his permission to reproduce the photograph.



As always I would be interested to receive contributions and feedback on any of the articles. I aim to make Starlite available for the first day of each month, so please can you submit any articles in time for this deadline.

Adrian Bryan (G0NLA) Editor.

The next article was contributed by John Scott. It was included in a 2001 Starlite but it is worth a second reading.



STARLITE

EXAM QUESTION

The following is an actual question given on Durham University chemistry exam, mid-term:

Question 1A - 'Is Hell exothermic (gives off heat) or endothermic (absorbs heat)? Support your answer with a proof.

Most of the students wrote proofs of their beliefs using Boyle's Law (gas cools off when it expands and heats up when it is compressed) or some variant. One student, however, wrote the following:

First, we need to know how the mass of Hell is changing in time. So, we need to know the rate that souls are moving into Hell and the rate they are leaving. I think that we can safely assume that once a soul gets to Hell, it will not leave. Therefore, no souls are leaving. As for how many souls are entering hell, let's look at the different religions that exist in the world today. Some of these religions state that if you are not a member of their religion, you will go to Hell. Since there are more than one of these religions and since people do not belong to more than one religion, we can project that all people and all souls go to Hell. With birth and death rates as they are, we can expect the number of souls in Hell to increase exponentially. Now, we can look at the rate of change of the volume in Hell because Boyle's Law states that in order for the temperature and pressure in Hell to stay the same, the volume of Hell has to expand as souls are added. This gives two possibilities: -

1) If Hell is expanding at a slower rate than the rate at which souls enter Hell, then the temperature and pressure in Hell will increase until all Hell breaks loose.

2) Of course, if Hell is expanding at a rate faster than the increase of souls in Hell, then the temperature and pressure will drop until Hell freezes over.

So which is it?

If we accept the postulate given to me by Ms Therese Banyon during my Freshers year "That it will be a cold night in Hell before I sleep with you", and take into account the fact that I still have not succeeded in having a relationship with her, then: 2) cannot be true, and thus I am sure that Hell is exothermic.

The student got the only A.



STARLITE

A LOOK INTO THE STARS ARCHIVES

Background

The following article is taken from the Stars Archives which are currently held by John Scott. This article arises from a casual question to John asking “where does the Stars Club call sign G6OI come from”. The conversation led to the Stars Archives. There is a large amount of information available, but some of the material is starting to get dilapidated. I found the documents interesting and thought club members would be interested to view a sample.

As a start we are going to look in particular at the binder labelled “S.T.A.R.S For the Record” which was presented to Alex Higgins G8GF at the Annual General Meeting at Longlands School, Stourbridge on Tuesday March 4th, 1968. I have reproduced one of the sections in the above binder which deals with a General History of the Stars Club. The main problem was how to present it. I have scanned the original document and used a text bridge program to convert the resulting tiff file to a rich text format. The RTF file has been edited to bring it back as far as possible to the original format. In most cases I have tried to preserve the original page boundaries and layout. The final page I had to type as the original had been updated by hand in ballpoint. The document was produced before the advent of Word Processing and this is reflected in the page layout and reduced use of blank space on the page.

It is interesting to note the problems encountered with getting suitable premises. You may also notice that as we come into more recent times VHF and ATV start to get a mention. It is also of note how past club members were keen competitors in the various competitions. Gaps were left on the original document to allow for the insertion of later entries. These gaps are not always preserved. The document dates back to the days when you could only get your document typed by the typing pool or a kindly female friend and draft copies and polished documents, completely free of error, were reserved for the Managing Director's typing only. The standard of spelling in the document was very high, but this was the norm back then. Nearly all typed documents at the time used Courier font and proportional spacing had to wait until the advent of computer word processing packages.

As you can see in the following pages, I received an answer to the question “Why do we use the G6OI call sign”. The original call signs allocated to J.Timbrell (G6OI) were 6OI and 6OJ with 6OJ being his portable call sign. The 'G' was added at a later date to the front of the call sign following international standardisation of radio call signs.

Read on.

Adrian Bryan (G0NLA)



STARLITE

STOURBRIDGE & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

GENERAL HISTORY

The present Society was founded in 1938 by Alec Higgins G8GF and Donald Rock G8PR with support from J. Timbrell G60I

1. Meeting Venues.

The 1938/39 Meetings were held in the Toc 'H' Club Room just off Lower High street, Stourbridge opposite King Edward VI School

No meetings were held during the war but Alec and Donald kept in touch.

In early 1946 after one meeting in the Toc 'H' premises the meetings were held in the Science Block King Edward VI School.

In October 1957, because of increased room charges, the meetings were transferred to the Brotherhood Hall, Scotts Road, Stourbridge.

In March 1961, due to accommodation difficulties at the Brotherhood Hall, the meetings were transferred to Foley College of Further Education, Hagley Road, Stourbridge.

In November 1965, notice to terminate tenancy was given by the Foley College and meetings were transferred to Longlands School, Brook Street, Stourbridge.

In 1969 a Club room was established at the Scout H.Q. South Road, Stourbridge. Apparatus was installed and meetings held there. However, due to poor support the venture was abandoned in 1972 and all meetings held thereafter at Longlands School, Brook Street, Stourbridge.

2. Membership

In the early years following the 1939/45 War the membership reached 55 and then settled to an average of 35. Members have generally been drawn from the Stourbridge, Brierley Hill, Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster and Kinver areas, and as is usual in the Amateur Radio fraternity, came from all walks of life.

3. V.I.P. Visitors.

In 1949 Arthur Milne G2MI R.S.G.B. Council member and Q.S.L. Bureau Manager attended and addressed a meeting.

In June 1950 John Clarricoats G6CL, then R.S.G.B. General Secretary attended and addressed a meeting.

In 1955 the Mayor of Stourbridge, Ald. P. Drew, attended and addressed a meeting.

In October 1961 the Deputy Mayor of Stourbridge, Ald. J. Guest, attended and addressed the Annual Dinner.

In October 1961 Mr. Fred Parker G3FUR, R.S.G.B. Council member (Zonal), attended and addressed the Annual Dinner.

4. Affiliations

On April 14th, 1947 the Society affiliated to the R.S.G.B.

In 1947 the Society subscribed to the Short Wave Magazine but ceased subscription in 1952 following a dispute between the Magazine and the R.S.G.B.

During the 1950's the Society joined the Association of Midland Radio Clubs. This organisation was not a success and it folded up after three years.



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5. Club Call Sign

In August 1962, owing to ill health, J. Timbrell G6OI. relinquished his call sign and the Post Office agreed to allocate it to the Society as a Club call sign. This call sign is used in all inter-Society/Club contests and at exhibitions, etc.

6. R.S.G.B. Representation by Members

J. Timbrell G6OI served as County Representative for Worcestershire and until 1957 was Regional Representative.

Alec Higgins G8GF was Town Representative for Stourbridge, County Representative for Staffordshire, and from 1957/1965 was Regional Representative.

Dai Barlow G3HGj served as County Representative for Staffordshire.

Neville Heathcock BRS served as County Representative for Worcestershire.

Frank Bills G3CLG) Have all served as Town or Affiliated

Ken Davies G8AAW) Societies' Representative.

John Bills G3KZG)

Stanford Jacobs G3AAQ was once nominated for Council.

Brian Kennedy G3ZUL Regional representative 1973/

7. Contests

a) N.F.D. The first entry was in 1947 when two Stations were established, one on Clent Hills and the other at Kidderminster. Since that time a two station entry was maintained until 1963. With the exception of 1967, when a 2nd Stourbridge "Group" Station was entered, a single Station entry has been made.

After several years in the "top ten" the Society won N.F.D. in 1961 and again in 1962. Unfortunately, mainly due to equipment fault, we didn't quite make the "hat trick!". The Society won the single station entry in 1968 and we were runners-up in 1969.

b) Affiliated Societies (R.S.G.B.)

The Society has won this no fewer than five times, the last occasion being in 1962 (our best year for contests).

c) M.C.C (Short Wave Magazine)

The Society won this on several occasions in the 1950's.

d) Individuals

The Society has been very well represented in the field of C.W. Contests.

Our pioneer was undoubtedly Harry Nicholas G3BQB, an early exponent of "break-in" who was well placed in the immediate post 1946 era.

In the 1950's Tom Cashmore G3BMY, our most successful and prolific contest enthusiast, took up the cudgels and in 1957 commenced a series of wins in top-band contest. He has also won low power 3.5mc contests. When Tom hasn't won he has always been amongst the first three.

Alec Higgins G8GF although not a regular participant, won both top-band contests in 1956. On both these occasions Tom G3BMY came a very close 2nd!

Bill Wells G3HVX was a joint winner of top-band contest with Tom G3BMY.

Joe Brooke G3GHC (now GW3GHC) won a Low-power 3.5mc Field Day.

Bob Ashman GX3HI, Ivan Eamus G3KLT and John Bills G3KZG have all done well in C.W. contests.

e) From 1967 the number of members wholly interested in VHF increased and it was decided to enter for National Contests in this spectrum as an alternative to H.F. Contests.

The first serious effort was in VHF NFD September 1969 and a station was operated from Walton Hill, Clent. In 1970 and 1971 this station was operated from Penny-Gweli attaining 31st, then 24th positions.



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e) Achievements by Members

In 1961 both Tom G3BMY and Alec GBGF were successful in contacting both the U.S.A. and Canada on C.W. On 1.8 m.c.

(They have the QSL to prove it!) Both these members have contacted many Stations outside the British Isles on 1.8 m.c.

In 1956/57 Frank Bills G3CLG maintained regular QSO with his son John G3KZG while he was stationed in Hong Kong.

The Society has two father and son licensees:

Frank Bills G3CLG and his son John G3KZG

Dai Barlow G3HGi and his son David G3PLE

In 1972 and 1973 Brian Kennedy G3ZUL G6AGT/T won the International Amateur Television Contest.

8. Assets

Besides a great deal of good-will, the assets of the Society include:

- 1 Panda Cub TX
- 1 C.R. 100 RX
- 1 Class "D" Wavemeter
- 12 Sectional Steel Masts
- 6 Dipole antennae
- 3 Cubicle Quods
- 2 Verticals
- 3 Petrol/Electric Chargers
- 1 "Presidents" Gavel

9. Silent Keys

1956 Claude Field G3KBL Quinton

1957 Arnold Devey G2AU Wolverhampton

1958 Bernard Whitehouse G6WF Wombourn

1964 John Timbrell G6OI Kinver

1967 Howard Littley G2NV Stourton/Isle of Wight

1969 James Edwin Parkes G3IYK Stourbridge

1974 Phillip Henry Rock G3LN, Stourbridge

See Obituaries in Section V

10. Society Trophies and Awards

Each year the Society awards the following:

J. Timbrell Senior Trophy

J. Timbrell Junior Trophy

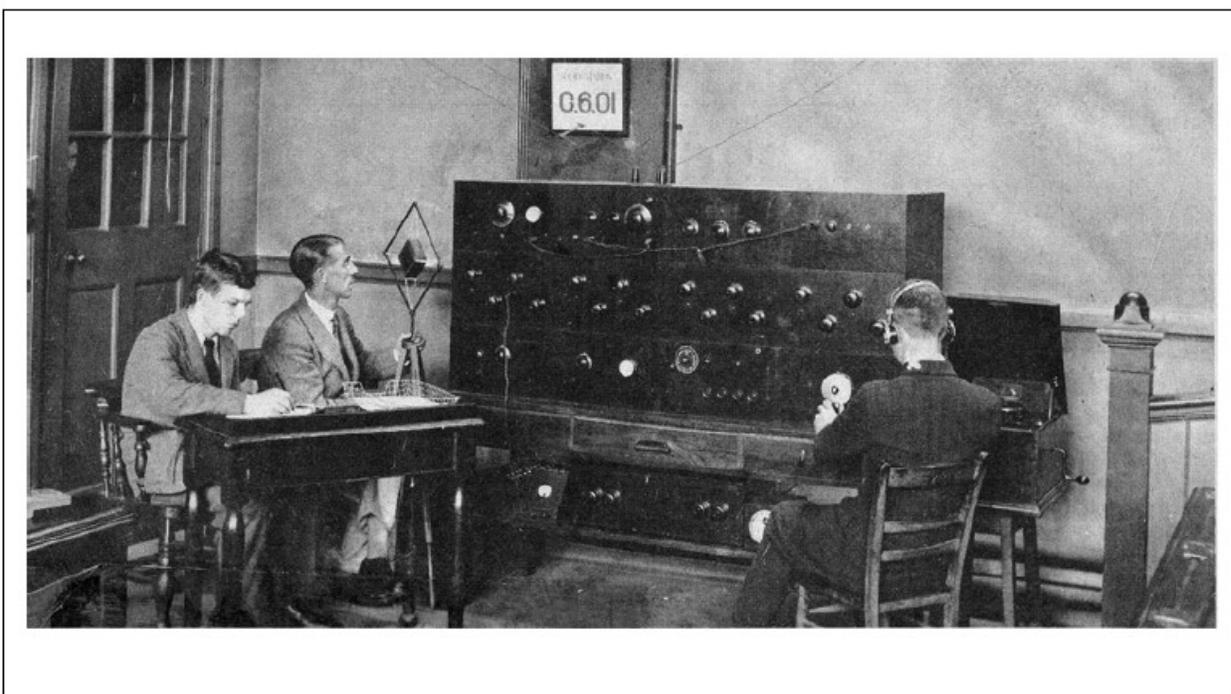
Alec Higgins Rose Bowl (Introduced 1961)

Bristol Trophy (Introduced 1970)

The methods of making the awards can be varied according to circumstances. A list of known winners is set out on the following page.

11. Rules

The current rules were framed and ratified in 1959 and copies are available on request , A copy of the original (post 1939/45 war) rules are appended on page 83.



The Station G6OI at King Edward VI School, copied from a newspaper report 1938. John Timbrell at the microphone



STARLITE

LIST OF KNOWN WINNERS OF STARS AWARDS

	Senior	Junior	Alex Higgins Rose Bowl	
1950	J.Hogg G2OG	-	-	
51	-	J.Hogg G2OG	-	
52	T.Cashmore G3BMYR	R.Ashman G3HXI	-	-
53			-	
54	F.Bills G3CLG	F.Meredith	-	
55	E.Morgan G3COD	J.Pearson G3SNY	-	
56	A.Higgins G8GF	T.Cashmore G3BMY	-	
57			-	
58	S.Hemmings G8SR	J.Hogg G2OG	-	
59			-	
1960	D.Barlow G3HGI	E.Brickstock G3IVQ		1 st Year
61	E.Morgan G3COD	P.Hamlett G8AAL	D.Barlow G3HGI	
62	T.Cashmore G3BMY	G.Woolfenden G8DSC	I.Eamus G3KLT	
63	G.Woolfenden G8DSC	R.MacIntosh G3XKM	J.Hogg G2OG	
64	J.Pearson G3SNY	M.Bristow	T.Cashmore G3BMY	
65	G.Woolfenden G8DSC	J.Harris G3RWC	E.Brickstock G3IVQ	
66	Dr.A.Parkes G7AXW	A.Ashford	R.MacIntosh G3XKM	
67	J.Harris G3RWC	D.Wright G3XOU	J.Bills G3KZG	
68	M.Skelding G3VHA	M.Palmer G8BOP	D.H.Barlow G3HGI	
69	K.Davies	C.Beatrop	I.Eamus G3KLT	
70	J.Hogg G2OG	M.Clift G3VDM	Dr.J.Majer Univ of Bham	
71	C.D.Barlow G3HGI	M.D.Robbins G8IZL	G.Woolfenden G8DSC	
72	M.Sparrow G8ACB	N.Hingley	Dr.G.P. Sugden G8DZQ	
73	D.Wright G3XOU	A.C.Marvin	J.Harris G3RWC	
74	B.Powell G4DIA	N.Hingley	B.Simmonds G3ZVK	
75	R.MacIntosh G3XKM	S.Widdett G4DFN	A.Dewsbury G4CLX	
76				
77				
78				
79				
80				

In Conclusion

It is interesting to see the evolution of the Stars club. Clearly amateur radio as a hobby has seen a lot of change over the years that Stars has been in operation. I received more of an answer to my original question about where the G6OI club call sign originates than I expected. The picture of John Timbrell is not part of the original article but I thought it would be of interest. Please excuse any errors. The text bridge program seemed to make some strange conversions from the original text and spotting and correcting errors was not easy. Whilst every effort was made to check names and call signs some errors may have been made.

Adrian Bryan (G0NLA)



STARLITE

FROM OUR ROVING REPORTER

Starlite Report May 2012

Our April main meeting talk could not have been timed better. It was about The Titanic from a different viewpoint and was prior to all the newspaper articles and TV programs on the centenary of sinking of the Titanic. We had an excellent presentation given by Peter Smith, a fellow volunteer on The Severn Valley Railway He also gave a talk last year about the defence of Rourke's drift which was made into the film Zulu. I have one or two interesting speakers lined for the next 12 months, one of which is a talk on Lifeboats. I also have a DVD taken from a video that has been seen previously, but not by new members, which is about The Robin Woods Community Centre [No longer there] where STARS used to meet in late 70s, 80s and 90s before moving to Old Swinford Hospital School.

On Sunday 15th April I was at the monthly organ concert at St James Church, Pensnett. After the concert I was chatting to a guy who was there for the first time by the name of Roger Poole from Solihull, when I mentioned about my many interests including Amateur radio. Roger said he is also licensed amateur, M0GWM. It's a small world. It was great news that nine out of ten passed the Foundation Exam.

Now its time to go back 35yrs to 1977 with STARS to February Newsletter as mentioned last month. January that year Clive Burton from the GPO presented three Post Office films one was of a ship with engine failure in the Atlantic near Nigeria and it demonstrated the use of Radio and telephone to obtaining spare parts needed. The second was the planning of microwave links and the laying of telephone cables in the Hebrides and the third was on the use of satellites for relaying television signals and telephone calls. Today these type of activity are taken for granted. Reading on it mentions all who had contributed to the newsletter- Mac [G3XKM], Brian [G3ZUL], Tony [G4CLX], Dennis [G4DFD], Bob[G8HET] and Robert Hill. I seem to recall he was with Hill's Sheds or buildings. I do know that Alan Ashford of Ashford Frozen foods Stourbridge was once a member of STARS

More next month including a step back into STARS History like the two photos from the mid 1980s taken at Wollaston playing fields where Stourbridge Carnival was held. One photo is of the first lady President of STARS, Eileen Tracy [G4YBT] and the other photo a view of the operating tent and aerials.

Best 73s for Now.

Malcolm Palmer G8BOP Your Roving Reporter



STARLITE

YOUR COMMITTEE

Hon. President	JAMES	G7HEZ	
Vice President	ADRIAN SIMMS	M3HBA	
Hon. Secretary	JOHN	M1EJG	(01562) 700513
Hon. Treasurer	JOHN	G8UAE	
Committee Members	NICK	G6DQN	
	MARK	G7EDZ	
	MALCOLM	G8BOP	
	ANDREW	M6APJ	
	ADRIAN BRYAN	G0NLA	

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

It should be noted that the Shack will be open every Monday evening unless shown otherwise in the Calendar

May	Sat 5th	10am Annual inspection of aerials on the roof all welcome - ladder climbing not essential
	Mon 7th	Bank Holiday
	Mon 14th	Committee Meeting
	Mon 21st	Vaughan Ravenscroft M0VRR RSGB Region 5 REP
	Mon 28th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
June	Mon 4th	Bank Holiday
	Mon 11th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
	Mon 18th	BAR-B-Q Sheepwalks
	Mon 25th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
July	Mon 2nd	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
	Mon 9th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
	Mon 16th	Talk by Tony Whitehead on his Military Vehicles
	Mon 23rd	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
	Mon 30th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
August	Mon 6th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
	Mon 13th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
	Mon 20th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter (note no talk)
	Mon 27th	Bank Holiday
September	Sat 1st	SSB Field Day contest
	Sun 2nd	same location as last year
	Mon 3rd	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
	Mon 10th	
	Mon 17th	

