

STARLITE

The Newsletter for Members and Friends of

G6OI
1938

Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society

G6SRS
1938

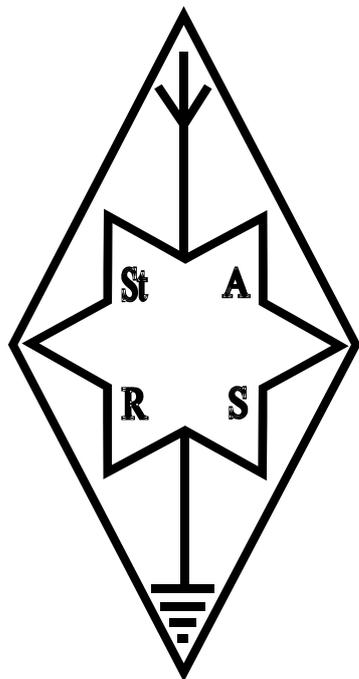
incorporating

Old Swinford Hospital School Radio Club

G4CVK

1969

**ISSUE
12/2010**



Old Swinford
Hospital

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Visitors always welcome

MEETINGS

The Society holds its full meetings on the

1st and 3rd Monday's 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 Monday's

*All correspondence/enquiries should be addressed to the
Hon. Secretary:*

John Clarke M1EJG

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STARS Web Site

WAP enabled ??

STARS

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www.g6oi.org.uk

www.g6oi.org.uk/wap/index.wml

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EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

I have made a change for the Christmas edition of the Stars Newsletter and have decided a Quiz would be more in keeping with the season. Why not round off your Christmas lunch with the family around the table with the Starlite Quiz? As a first prize I suggest the winner does not have to help with the washing up! Just in case there is any competition I have included the answers in a section towards the end of this month's Starlite.

See <http://www.g6oi.org.uk/> for a picture showing the latest Foundation Course successes. For this intake there were eight passes out of ten. Another Foundation Class will be held soon; the dates have yet to be fixed.

I would again like to thank Malcolm Palmer (G8BOP) for his articles and photographs for the Newsletter and as usual, any other contributions for articles from club for Starlite will be well received.



The surplus sale (see picture above) on Monday 15th December was well attended and Nick Moss (G6DQN) kindly provided his skills as auctioneer and at one point took a telephone bid. Unfortunately the telephone turned out to be one he had sold earlier in the proceedings and was not accepted.

Best 73's

Adrian (G0NLA) – Newsletter Editor – editor@g6oi.org.uk



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CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Just to make things slightly more difficult, in some cases more than one choice is correct.

- (1) What was usually measured in Angstrom units ?

the distance between planetary objects
the focal length of optical lenses
wavelengths of visible light and even smaller distances
- (2) What are Colpitts, Vackar and Hartley examples of?

Oscillator circuits
Crystal filters
RF pre amplifiers
- (3) Which Radio Pioneer filed British Patent number 7777?

Guglielmo Marconi
Samuel Morse
Hidetsugu **Yagi** and Shintaro **Uda** jointly
- (4) What was the original prototype of the Yagi-Uda array intended for?

Wireless energy transfer
Increasing the directionality and privacy of radio signals
Reducing the need for high powered transmitters
- (5) What is an Oblast Number?

It is a territorial division within Russia and former Soviet Republics
It is a unit of measurement of efficiency of a full wave rectifier circuit
It is the Swedish equivalent of the American Police Ten Codes
- (6) What is the electrical unit of Inductance?

The mho
The Henry
The Coulomb
- (7) If a Russian CW operator sent SPB what would it mean?

It is the Russian equivalent of the RSGB
It is the Russian QSL Bureau
He would be saying "thank-you"
- (8) Which call sign should a UK ham use if he was in a private jet in mid-Atlantic assuming his



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call was G6OI for example?

G6OI/AM

G6OI/P

UK Hams not allowed Aeronautical Mobile operation

- (9) Why was the BBC Long Wave Transmitter sited at Wychbold?

It is away from large centres of population

It was experimentally found to have the optimum coverage of the UK

The salt content of the local soil helps improve propagation of radio signals

- (10) If you picked up a call from a station with a call sign starting IS0 which country would they be located in?

No call sign starts with this prefix

The New Republic of Ingushetia

Sardinia

- (11) Who designed the G5RV Antenna?

Loius Varney

George Benbow

Pat Hawker

- (12) What is Yaesu an abbreviation for?

It is an invention. The original company name is unpronounceable in the west

It is a contraction of Yaesu Musen Co. Ltd.

Yamaguchi Seiko Engineering Union

- (13) Who invented the transistor?

It was developed by Cambridge Laboratories UK

It was jointly developed by Shockley, Bardeen and Brattian

It was jointly developed at MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

- (14) Which of the following capacitors perform best at radio frequencies?

Non-Polarized Electrolytic, Tantalum Bead, Paper Dielectric

Silver Mica, Ceramic

PTFE, Teflon, Mylar Film

- (15) The major mode of propagation of radio wave over long distances at frequencies above 50Mhz is by :-

Ground Wave

Reflection by the Ionosphere

Refraction by the Ionosphere

Refraction by the Troposphere



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- (16) The International Q-code used to indicate interference from other stations is
- QRA
 - QRN
 - QRM
 - QSB
- (17) A Push-Pull stage in a transmitter is used as a frequency multiplier. The strongest harmonic will be the?
- Second
 - Third
 - Fourth
 - Fifth
- (18) What is/are a Darlington Pair
- Two pigs that escaped slaughter and remained at large for several days
 - A transistor coupling arrangement to give a high gain
 - A super alpha device operating in common emitter mode
- (19) What does CTCSS stand for?
- Coded Tone Continuous Squelch System
 - Continuous Tone Coded Squelch System
 - Continuous Tone Capacitive Synthesis System
- (20) Which countries allow suitably licensed hams to use a maximum output power of up to 750Watts?
- Countries that made up the former Yugoslavia
 - The USA only
 - The USA, Belgium and Switzerland

I hope you enjoyed the Quiz -
As usual any mistakes are mine

G0NLA – Adrian Bryan



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OUR ROVING REPORTER

Nov 2010 Stourbridge Amateur Radio Society

Roving Reporter Report

Well almost another year has passed and I must say this year is the first time I have not attended a Radio Rally which seems to be largely a thing of the past as far as the West Midlands is concerned. There was however the Telford Rally, but I had two other events in my diary for that day, one of which was the SSB field day which was cancelled due to lack of support and the other which I had booked for was a weekend out in Blackpool at The George Formby Society meeting at the new –old venue. The Imperial Hotel [I did not stay there]. Also it was The AGM of the Society which I have not been able to attend for some time because the dates clashed with the Organ Concert at Shrewsbury Buttermarket, [which is still closed since October 2010 and no idea when it will re open]. I had thoughts about attending the Kidderminster Radio Club surplus sale but decided against the idea because I was not 100% sure of finding my way there. It's always more difficult finding one's way at night time, also I would have been out every night that week. I am always committed to being out one night a week collecting football pools and it's not much fun in the winter (after 30yrs I don't like the thought of giving it up, but with what the commission Glenys gets and petrol to get round I wonder if it is any longer worth the effort). I was informed by my fellow volunteer on the Severn Valley Railway Bernard G0BJS that there were a few bargains to be had and there were two STARs members at the Kidderminster Surplus Sale. I have often mentioned about the small world of Amateur Radio, well I decided to get in contact via e-mail with the organist who should have been at the Buttermarket in Dec.2010 because I was informed that he had an idea for the use of the building and still hold organ concerts. It was during the exchange of e-mails and the mention of my other interests that he said his father has an Amateur Transmitting License G0ELK, Bill Baron from



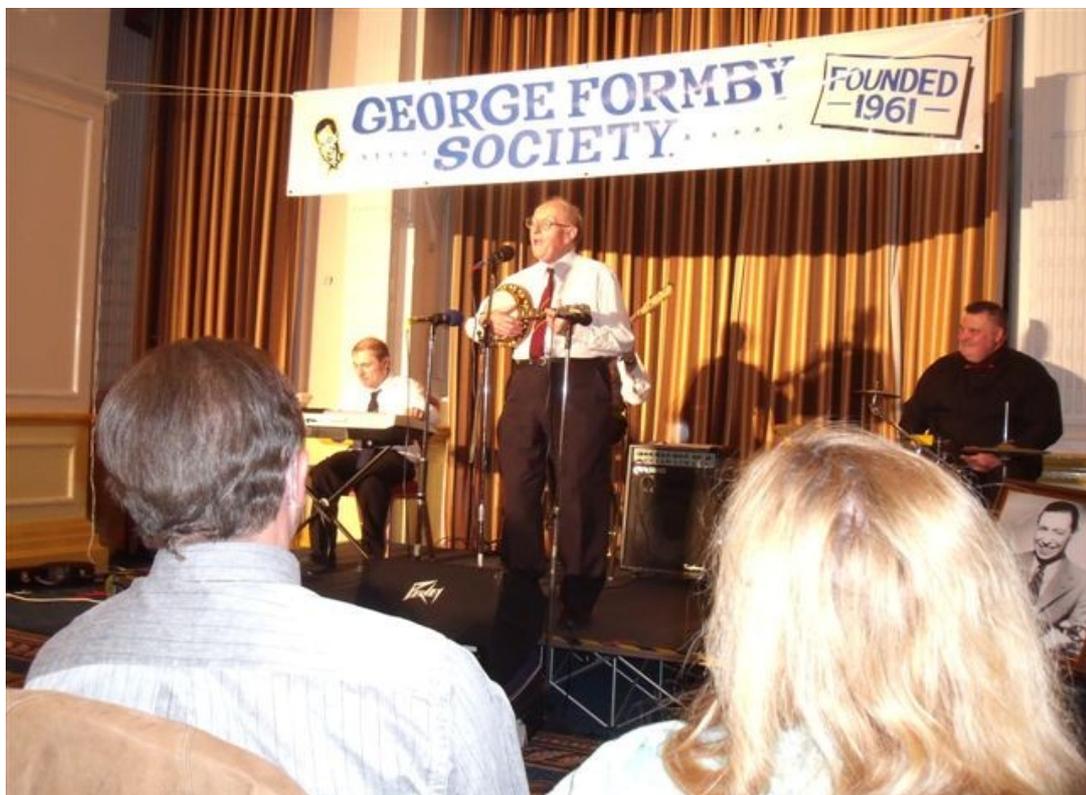
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Manchester and that he [Michael Baron] is a SWL and has an interest in Steam Trains and is a regular visitor and tram driver at the Derby Tram Museum in Cricch.

The Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Club surplus sale in November was well attended and even though not all the items were sold [sign of the times we are living in?] there were some bargains I purchased after the sale and much admired the Aerial Tuning Unit that Wayne had put in the sale. I have not been able to try the ATU out with the FT 101 ZD because of running an earth into the Radio Shack, it involves taking up floor boards and drilling through the wall,[Any other ideas ?] Well there was a committee meeting on Monday 22nd November and there is a lot to look forward to next year including another visit from John Bills and his test Equipment. The Saturday and Sunday prior to the meeting I was once again in Blackpool for the weekend meeting of the George Formby Society. I was in conversation with one of the members who lives in Yorkshire but who appeared in the 1940s at an event in Netherton. He is a Short Wave Listener and goes on air via the internet. He did mention which programme he uses. Well that's all for now, my photographs of the STARS Surplus sale are on the previous page and also in the Editorial.

Performing at the Imperial Hotel Blackpool

Please see photograph below. Saturday night, during the meeting at the Imperial Hotel Blackpool, Malcolm is performing two George Formby numbers, sitting on the ice in the Ice Rink,[Seasonal] & Banjo Boy. But take a close look at the Keyboard player, Matthew Richards from Wolverhampton who does a wonderful job. Matthew has been appointed Musical Director of The George Formby Society, he is partially sighted but his gift for music is outstanding on keyboard, piano and ukulele. Matthew has other interests that go back way beyond his age of 22, he collects phonographs, 78s and anything from that period. Additionally Matthew has an interest in Amateur Radio and has attended a meeting of STARS. He wants to visit STARS again and become a member.



Matthew will shortly be moving into a house of his own not far away in Pinfold Lane Wolverhampton where the late Fredrick Smith G6FK used to live. I am delighted that Matthew's



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mother, father, brother Jonathan who is another Uke Player and Matthew attend the Stourbridge Branch GFS meetings. Matthew works hard doing all the backing along with a guitar player who travels from Lytham St Annes with his wife who is another Uke player and former employee from Contactor Switchgear. Matthew is looking forward to getting on the air once he get his Foundation Licence.

Well, that's all for now.

Best 73s Malcolm G8BOP Your Roving Reporter

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QUIZ ANSWERS

- (1) The Angstrom unit is now defunct but it was typically used to measure the wave lengths of visible light and below. It is now more common to use the nanometre for such measurements.
- (2) These are all examples of Radio Frequency Oscillators and were required reading for “old-school” Radio Amateurs who were required to have a reasonable understanding of electronics before being allowed on to the airwaves..
- (3) Marconi filed Patent Number 7777 – you should have got this correct if you read last month's Starlite.
- (4) The original Yagi array was used (I believe) to remotely charge a lead-acid battery.
- (5) An Oblast Number is a number which is used as a territorial division within the the former Soviet Republics. For example Odessa, Kiev and Donetsk have their own Oblast numbers. The number is a type of coarse post code.
- (6) The unit of inductance is the Henry and is named after the American scientist Joseph Henry.
- (7) SPB is a CW abbreviation for the Russian for Thank-you – spasiba - Спасибо.
- (8) To the best of my knowledge UK hams are not allowed to use aeronautical mobile. I have heard US hams aeronautical mobile and the range is quite impressive.
- (9) All the given answers are correct. Most English place names containing “wich” have a connection with salt. In a similar way that propagation at sea is good so also propagation over salty ground is also enhanced. A possible alternative site for the transmitter was Barnt Green but this was rejected as it was too near the population centre of Birmingham.
- (10) The correct answer is Sardinia (the I for Italy and S for Sardinia may have given a clue)
- (11) The G5RV was designed by Louis Varney. Pat Hawker |G3VA and George Benbow G3HB wrote extensively on radio matters but did not design the G5RV.
- (12) The correct answer is Yaesu Musen Co. Ltd. Yaesu was founded by Sako Hasegawa. Yaesu is a district of Tokyo and Musen is Japanese for Radio. BTW Kodak is an example of a company name which has no meaning. I understand that the name was picked because it could move across national boundaries and remain easy to pronounce and not mean something inappropriate in any language.
- (13) The transistor was developed at Bell Labs by Shockley, Bardeen and Brattian.
- (14) Silver Mica and Ceramic capacitors operate best at radio frequencies.
- (15) The major mode of propagation over short distances is ground wave, but the question was over long distances so the correct answer is therefore “Refraction by the Troposphere”.
- (16) Answer is QRN.
- (17) A push-pull amplifier has distortion caused by the non-linearity of the transistor characteristics and the third harmonic is the strongest. If anybody wants to argue this answer, the floor is yours – this is not my area of expertise.
- (18) Sadly the two pigs answer is incorrect here, the other two answers are both correct. If you put the two pigs as your answer, you were possibly thinking about the Tamworth Two.
- (19) Continuous Tone Coded Squelch System
- (20) Countries that made up the former Yugoslavia may use up to 2kW, The USA allows 1.5kW, Belgium and Switzerland allow 1kW and 750W for Germany. So second answer is incorrect and the first and third are correct.

I hope you enjoyed the quiz and found some brief entertainment.

G0NLA – Adrian Bryan

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YOUR COMMITTEE

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

CALENDAR of EVENTS

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

December	Mon 6th	Informal - On air or natter
	Mon 13th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
	Mon 20th	Main Meeting - Not yet arranged
	Mon 27th	Bank Holiday No Meeting
January	Mon 3rd	Bank Holiday No Meeting
	Mon 10th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
	Mon 17th	Main Meeting - John Bills Test Equipment
	Mon 24th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
	Mon 31st	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
February	Mon 7th	Karl Truby - Commercial Soldering
	Mon 14th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
	Mon 21st	Main Meeting - Constructors contest
	Mon 28th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
March	Mon 7th	Informal - On air or natter
	Mon 14th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
	Mon 21st	Annual General Meeting - Vote for your new committee
	Mon 28th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
March	Mon 7th	Informal - On air or natter
	Mon 14th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
	Mon 21st	Main Meeting - Not yet arranged
	Mon 28th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
April	Mon 4th	Informal - On air or natter
	Mon 11th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter
	Mon 18th	Main Meeting - Not yet arranged
	Mon 25th	Open Shack Night - On air or natter