

only a month to go!

Well to think in one months time I will be writing the Xmas report. Time has passed so quickly. However to the present, I still have not had time for Amateur Radio with still having several other tasks to do, but they are getting sorted and come the darker nights things will of changed. I have another computer base which I purchased from the Leicester Rally which is much faster than the existing Pentium 75 I am using. It is a 266 CPU & 64 MB dimm ram. I have also nearly have the one working that I had the mother board for from Bletchley Radio Rally that takes 233 CPU and I have installed 32 megs of ram so I am getting there slowly. I will have several items which I have sorted for the surplus sale this month.

I still continue with My other interests which have increased, since Glenys and myself became involved with the Severn Valley Railway & enjoy at present going down to Bewdley & working on carriage restoration one day a week. The Worcester Rally is on Sat 8th Dec & not Sun as mentioned in my previous report. As with the Mars Rally I will be unable to attend on Sat the 8th as its Xmas Fair at the Robin Woods Centre.

On Sat 20th Oct I was in Stourbridge to collect from Micro Doc some 72 pin edos [32mb] for the computer I have assembled. Coming in by bus I noticed there was a steam weekend at the Bonded Warehouse, so I decided to visit there first & after two hours I arrived at Micro Doc. I never thought I would spend that length of time at the Warehouse looking at various fair organs & traction engines & chatting to people like Paul Taylor from Stourbridge who had a selection of vintage radios & wind up gramophones. He has a interest in amateur radio and I suggested that he came along to some of our meetings. I also came into contact with two

[passengers] from the 7-10 that used to go through MH repeater in 1980s they where Ex stars member Dave G0DKP & Phil G0HLM, who had narrow boats there. I had a idea - what about Stars becoming involved in next years event or any similar thing at the Warehouse. It will be good publicity for the society.

It seems as if Oct was, as far as I was concerned, getting involved with the B.B.C. which started with My interview on Radio W.M. on 5th Oct which according to reports not only from the area but from Leominster & Stoke On Trent came over very well, the other time was on Sun 21st Oct [I was not interviewed this time] it was B.B.C. Radio Shropshire & Midlands Today who had come to the Buttermarket to do a feature about our Wurlitzer. It was on the Midlands News T.V. on the same night. Finally I mentioned the 7-10 earlier on, well I read in the Oct Rad Com that one who used join the net from time to time & I have had simplex contacts with him, Kieth G3VYP from Orleton Nr Leominster, became a silent key in Aug. I also used to meet up with nim & his xyl at the Telford Radio Rally & at Organ concerts at Overton Grange. As I am drafting out this report I am at our organ concert at Shrewsbury & in the audience are Gerald a swl & his xyl from Upper Gornal & Doug G3ZLJ & his xyl.

That's All for now see you next month Roving Reporter Malcolm G8BOP

Save Our Services!

Longlands Post Office in the Old Quarter of Stourbridge is to close when the current postmaster retires.

The Post Office Network intends to close the Clifton Street post office when subpostmaster James Kimpton retires on November 28.

Mr Kimpton, aged 64, who has a heart condition, has been trying to sell the business for 18 months, without success - so he has now submitted his resignation.

The Post Office said it intended to seek a new postmaster for Longlands, but it now plans to close the office permanently, as there are four other post offices within a mile - at Norton, Oldswinford, Stourbridge and Wollaston. The vacancy will not be advertised as Mr Kimpton and wife, Barbara, who have run the office for six-and-a-half years, plan to convert the premises back to a house. Kevin McGuinness, Post Office manager, said: "We believe the relatively close proximity of these offices means we would still be able to offer a satisfactory service to our customers, even after the enforced closure of Longlands.

"Such a move would also improve the viability of the other local offices.

"We realise the decision not to advertise the vacancy will come as a disappointment to some."

Councillors at Stourbridge Area Committee meeting on Thursday October 4 vowed to try and find a suitable new base for the office, such as the empty former Roger's Barbers Shop, Clifton Street.

Lib Dem councillor, Lois Bramall, said: "There's a lot of elderly people that very much welcome the service the post office provides."

The post office has operated from its current base since 1985. Previously it was located in a general store and later a butcher's shop in Clifton Street.

To comment write to the Post Office Network's customer care section, Network House, The Quadrant, Aztec West, Almonds-

bury, Bristol BS32 4QX, by Friday October 19.

Fight to save post office

Councillors vowed last night (Thursday) to try and find a new home for Longlands Post Office in Stourbridge's Old Quadrant, which faces closure when the current postmaster retires next month.

The Post Office Network intends to close the Clifton Street post office when subpostmaster James Kimpton retires on November 28, but councillors and residents opposed the proposal at last night's Stourbridge Area Committee meeting at Redhill School.

Lib Dem councillor, Lois Bramall, said: "There's a lot of elderly people that very much welcome the service the post office provides."

The Post Office said it intended to seek a new postmaster, but it now plans to close the office permanently, as there are four other post offices within a mile - at Norton, Oldswinford, Stourbridge and Wollaston.

The vacancy will not be advertised as Mr Kimpton, who has been trying to sell the business for the past 18 months, plans to convert the premises back to a house.

But councillors pledged to oppose the closure and suggest a suitable new base for the office, such as the empty former Roger's Barbers Shop, Clifton Street.

Kevin McGuinness, Post Office manager, said: "We believe the relatively close proximity of these offices means we would still be able to offer a satisfactory service to our customers, even after the enforced closure of Longlands."

Reprinted from the Stourbridge News, articles also appeared in the Chronicle and Express & Star.

FOR SALE

(Ex GORXO Frank)

Trio (Kenwood) TS700 2Mtr Multimode base stn. £125 A.M./ F.M./ S.S.B./ C.W 10 watts rms out. 12v or Mains operation. With SP930 ext. speaker

13.8v SOA P.S.U. (Home brew built like the proverbial brick toilet!) £50 Over voltage, Over current, Over temperature protection etc.

Oskerblock 144-146 MHz Power/s.w.r. Bridge £10

Home built 144/146 Mhz Preamplifier £10 With built in RF switching.

Diamond 1.8/ 60Mhz Power meter/ swr bridge. £40 P.E.P. reading power meter.

H.F. A.T .U. Built in meter fwd/ rev power. £70

Yeasu RC400 Antenna Rotator (Round 360 deg. type) £80

Jaybeam 144 MHz 8 element beam antenna. £10 (free if taken with above!) (Note that the rotator and antenna are still erected and would need dismantling.

Star Master key Electronic keyer. With twin paddle key and pump key. Built in side tone adjustable speed weight etc. £25

DECOM Portable mast 20 ft 2" dia. With guys, pegs clamps etc £15

2 Element Tri-band Mini Beam (Needs some new U bolts and mast clamps Otherwise OK) £15

Various other odds and ends of Ham equipment. Coaxial cable, Baluns Traps etc.

01384 827538

Having now obtained the use of the room adjacent to the "shack" on a permanent basis, tea / coffee making facilities together with biscuits are now available at no charge to members (and guests) at Monday evening On Air club meetings.



Remember the Annual Constructors competition is only months away in February.

The Surplus sale is the ideal time to buy those extra bits you may need.....

For Sale

Alinco DX70TH all band (Inc 6m) all mode HF TCVR. Little used and as new with mobile mounting bits, manual and box. £425 ono

Reason for sale, very limited eyesite.

Tel 01323 720602

**Alec G8GF Eastbourne,
6m ½ I vertical could be included.**

Annual (quality) Surplus SALE

Please have a look around for quality surplus that you can reasonably expect that someone else may be interested in buying! Items of special interest are always sort after. (especially those in a green metal box!)

Please bring plenty of money to the sale, remember that all sales contribute to club funds and help keep the cost of the subscription low and also enable the club to offer perks such as FREE tea and coffee!!

See you there.....

viewing from 7:45 sale to start at 8:00 prompt.

SMALLEST TRANSISTOR

The world's smallest transistor is brewed up in Bell Labs, signalling the end of the world as we know it

Bell Labs, where the transistor was invented in 1947, has now announced what it believes to be the smallest transistor possible. At around one billionth of a metre across -- the length of a single molecule -- the device uses organic materials and assembles itself from a chemical solution. This is effectively the smallest that a transistor can be, says Bell Labs, and thus marks the end for the smaller, faster, cheaper path that has driven the semiconductor industry for forty years. "It literally happens in a beaker on a desktop using a procedure known as chemical self-assembly. This is the ultimate in small. It's the end of Moore's Law scaling," said John Rogers, director of nanotechnology research. Moore's Law states that the number of transistors per integrated circuit will double every 18 months, and has held true since 1965.

The transistor is made from gold electrodes, a silicon dioxide layer and thiol molecules, which are carbon compounds similar to alcohols but with the oxygen replaced by sulphur. They are constructed by pouring the solution over the electrodes, whereupon the thiols align themselves and make the transistor structure. The devices can be configured as switches, amplifiers and simple logic circuits, and are potentially much cheaper to make than existing solid state semiconductors.

First applications are likely to be in devices like active paper displays and laptop screens, where the transistor's plastic-like composition means it can flex and fold where silicon would shatter. However, it is expected that it will take around 30 years for the rest of the industry to catch up with devices of this size, during which time Moore's Law will continue to apply.

"The devices have around a thousand active molecules" said Hendrick Schon, a researcher at the labs. "We need to see whether we can do amplification and switching with single molecules, to see where the ultimate limit is in making transistors. "

Internet Gateway

I've at last found a site from which both iphone and ilink can be downloaded plus the necessary code to make the iphone permanent. Any of the club will be able to see and listen and, who knows, even talk via 2m to the world.

I can vouch for the iphone network via all the various conference rooms available but so far I have not used ilink. A word of caution????? should the iphone log on to any of the vocaltec servers you may receive some **very strange** calls!!!! just don't answer them. Audio/mike setup instructions should be with the iphone setup be sure to get them correct otherwise the world might hear all of your comments.

<http://iphone.ipfox.com>

73 Jim g4wao

