

# 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 5 2007/8



### Hi-LITES for the COMING WEEKS

JULY	Mon 9th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 16th	ARDF covering 80M and 2M by Robert G3ORI and friends. This will be followed by a mini-DF hunt around the school grounds to provide a practical demonstration of the practices and principles DON'T MISS THIS ONE
	Mon 23rd	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 30th	Sheep Walks Barbecue On-Air (note - 7:30) (weather permitting)
August	Mon 6th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 13th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available

Produced by G8JTL



RSGB Affiliated Society

the views expressed in STARLITE may not be that of the committee - @Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society

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Visitors always welcome



The Society holds its full meetings on the

1st and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

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# STARLITE

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WAP enabled ??

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[www.g6oi.org.uk/wap/index.wml](http://www.g6oi.org.uk/wap/index.wml)

## EDITORIAL

Hi,

That's All ..Best 73s Malcolm G8JTL

## OUR ROVING REPORTER

B

Well That's All For Now Best 73s Your Roving Reporter -Malcolm Palmer G8BOP



# STARLITE

## “THE FORGOTTEN WIRELESS PIONEERS”.

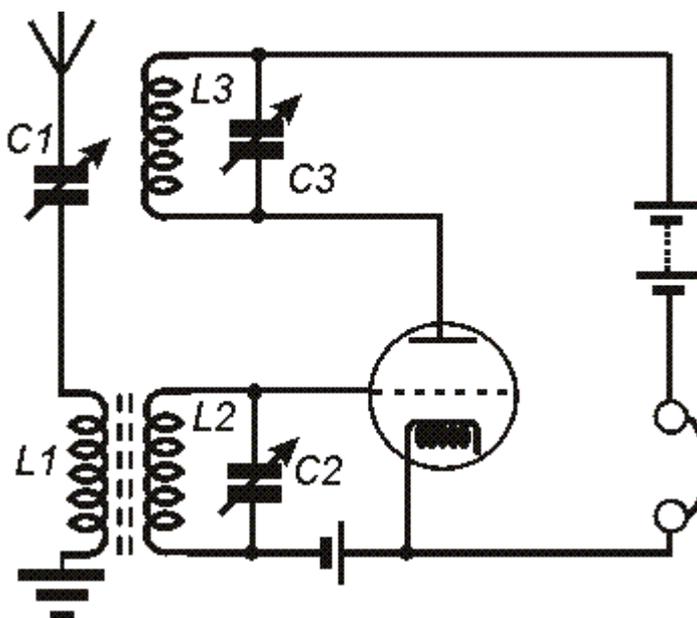
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HENRY JOSEPH ROUND



Continued from Issue-4 .....

In 1913 four names were to the fore in the development of radiotelephony; in Germany Alexander Meissner, in the USA Major Edwin Armstrong and, in Britain Round and C.S. Franklin of the Marconi Company. Round had given a demonstration of valved radio telephony between Marconi House and the Savoy Hotel in 1913; his circuitry was much more efficient than his rivals and contained the important innovation of a grid capacitor with a high resistance shunted across it and a resistance in the anode circuit to limit the current flowing through the valve. While this circuit was not patented until 1914 (after both Meissner and Franklin) it proved to be the most efficient and effective.



H.J.Round's autodyne receiver

Recalling his days in the United States, Round must have been intrigued by the work of Dr. E. Bellini and Captain A.Tosi in the field of direction finding with their goniometer and loop aerials set at right angles. The Marconi Company purchased the rights to the Bellini-Tosi system in 1911 and Round set about perfecting the receiver and making the system more accurate. The first tests of direction finding on board ships were between the shore and the 'Mauretania' using a Round designed crystal receiver. Other experiments were carried out in the following three years.

In March 1914 Round accompanied Marconi to Italy to carry out the first wireless telephony experimental tests on the high seas. The apparatus was installed on board the Italian warships 'Napoli' and 'Regina Elena' and communication was established at a distance of forty-five miles.

At the outbreak of war, in August 1914, the military authorities realised the benefits to be gained from wireless communications and Round was seconded to Military Intelligence with the rank of



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Captain. In this role he was a pioneer of airborne wireless. A practical aircraft telephony set was produced at the end of 1915, known as the "Mark One". Round used his previous experience to produce the V24 transmitting and receiving valve. It was specifically used as an HF amplifier valve and was of a revolutionary design reducing parasitic capacitances by enclosing the electrode in a tight fitting glass tube and bringing the grid and anode connections out at opposite ends of the tube using small caps. It had a filament current of 0.75 amps at 5 volts and an anode voltage of between 20 and 60 volts. (These were still being made by the Marconi Company up to 1935). The other valve used at this time was the Type Q which was similar to the V24 but had a fine mesh grid construction; it had a higher amplification and internal impedance and required an anode voltage of up to 150v. to operate. The reconnaissance value of aircraft wireless was immense and invaluable to the war effort.

Captain Round's pre war experience came to the fore as far as military intelligence was concerned, not only at the front but also in monitoring enemy wireless traffic. The Germans were, it seems, unaware that Round had developed sensitive receiving equipment which could monitor signals. In addition he set up a chain of direction finding and monitoring stations on the Western Front; the Army could both determine the position of enemy stations and listen to the volume and character of the traffic to endeavour to ascertain their intentions.

A second chain of stations was established by the Admiralty on the North Sea and English Channel coasts to find the position of enemy U-boats, surface vessels and Zeppelins. It was these stations that alerted the Admiralty to the sailing of the German fleet and led to the Battle of Jutland. The words of the wireless pioneer Henry Jackson who, as Admiral Sir Henry Jackson was first Lord of the Admiralty at the time describe it accurately:-

"We have heard much about the use of direction finding for minor tactical movements of all arms, but this is a case of a major strategical operation which brought about the historical meeting of the British and German fleets at the Battle of Jutland on 31st May 1916. I was First Sea Lord at the time, and so was responsible for the disposition of the Grand Fleet. Our wireless direction-finding stations, under Captain Round, kept careful and very intelligent watch on the positions of German ships using wireless, and on the 30th May 1916 heard an unusual amount of wireless signals from one of the enemy ships which they located at Wilhelmshaven. This was reported to me, the time was a critical and anxious one in the War, and I also had some reasons for expecting the German fleet might put out to sea during the week. Our fleet was ready at short notice, and had arranged, unless otherwise prevented, to put to sea on the following day for a sweep of the North Sea. But if the German Fleet got to sea first, the chance of our meeting in waters not unfavourable to us was remote; our object was to try to get to sea before or shortly after the Germans, and hitherto we had not succeeded in doing so. Later on in the afternoon it was reported to me that the German ship conducting the wireless traffic had changed her position a few miles to the northward. Evidently she and her consorts had left the basins at Wilhelmshaven and had taken up a position in the Jade River, ready to put to sea. This movement decided me to send our Grand Fleet to sea and move towards the German Bight at once and try to meet the German Fleet and bring it to action .... "

to be continued .....

## SOCIETY LIFE

### Monday July 9: 7 Members.

Work continued on the shack refurbishment with the cables fed around the shack from patch panel to rig positions. The final patch lead was cut , terminated and also put into position. Also during this evening it was discovered that the HF beam rotator appears to be stuck/not responding to the control box – so yet another job to be scheduled



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**Monday July 16:**

**Monday July 23: 10 Members ,1 Apology and 1 Visitor**

Most of the evening was a general natter plus checking on what was available for the forthcoming Carnival station.

**Monday July 30: 8 Members and 1 Visitor**

Tonight turned out to be busy, first with the sorting out of the equipment used for the carnival and returning it to the correct 'hole' in the store and shack.

Then the work began – continuing with the shack refurbishment – work commenced on making up the required lengths of feeder ready for running around the shack. This was taken as an opportunity to demonstrate the termination of 'N' Type and PL259 Plugs onto the RG213 Co-ax. Once one of each connector had been demonstrated then it was over to Geoff and Mark to prove they had been listening. Both successfully terminated an 'N' plug onto the cable.



# STARLITE

## YOUR COMMITTEE

Hon. President	MALCOLM	G8JTL	(01384) 894019
Vice President	NICK	G6DQN	
Hon. Secretary	JOHN	M1EJG	(01562) 700513
Hon. Treasurer	JOHN	G8UAE	
Committee Members	ERIC	G7JWJ	Co-Opted
	RICHARD	M1DBC	
	MALCOLM	G8BOP	
	IAN	M3XRL	

## CALENDAR of EVENTS

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

May	Mon 7th	MAY BANK HOLIDAY
	Mon 14th	On Air Night - Airing the club calls Hf + 2M
	Mon 21st	The Adventures of a Foundation Candidate
	Mon 28th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
June	Mon 4th	On Air Night - Airing the club calls Hf + 2M
	Mon 11th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 18th	General Meeting - Club Events
	Mon 25th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
July	Mon 2nd	On Air Night - Airing the club calls Hf + 2M
	Mon 9th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 16th	<b>ARDF covering 80M and 2M by Robert G3ORI and friends.</b>
	Mon 23rd	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 30th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
August	Mon 6th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 13th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 20th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 27th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
September	Sat 1/sun 2	SSB FIELD DAY
	Mon 3rd	On Air Night - Airing the club calls Hf + 2M
	Mon 10th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 17th	Slow Scan Operation by Wayne M5LLT
	Mon 24th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 1st	On Air Night - Airing the club calls Hf + 2M
	Mon 8th	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available
	Mon 15th	Main Meeting - TBA
	Mon 22st	Open Shack Night - Tea/Coffee always available

