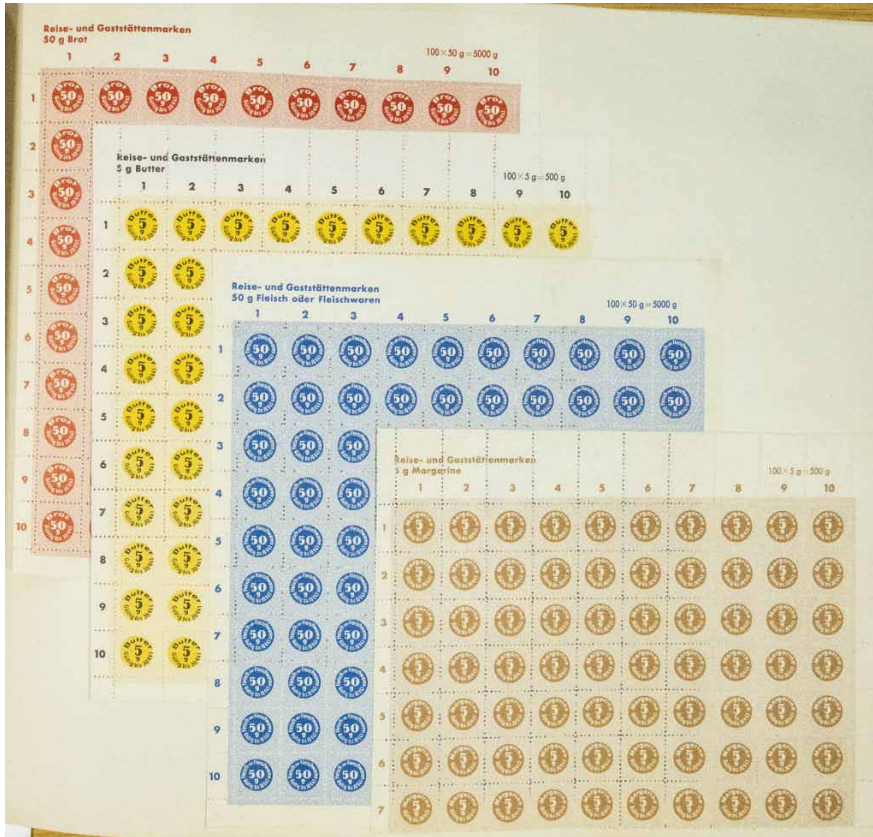


Club Call G4HRS

Est. 1938

HARCNEWS




The Journal of
Horsham Amateur Radio Club
May 2024

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Cover photo: One of the priceless artefacts found in The National Archive (NA)

Editorial

An official welcome to Andy Clark G8TJQ who has been co-opted onto the Committee as mentioned in this column last month. We look forward to having you with us Andy!



It appears that the AI Activity day mentioned in last month's newsletter didn't go well. The manager of AIC never appeared, therefore, anyone who did take part wasn't able to pass on any useful information. Maybe there will be another one of these activity days on April 1st next year!

The Worthing Road in Horsham which is currently closed due to gas works where old pipes are being replaced is due to reopen by May 13th. This will bring good news to motorists who have been sitting in traffic jams or having to find alternative routes.

David G4JHI

Copy deadline for emailed items for June edition 20th May - For hand written items the deadline is 12th May.

For items sent by email please send to this address:

[newsletter<at>g4jhi.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@g4jhi.co.uk)

April Meeting

“Deception as a Service” (1940-1946)

by Andy Clark G8TJQ

This talk was the first in a two-part series, the second being scheduled for presentation at the Club on 2 May and will cover the period 1991 until the present day.

Andy started by explaining that during the war years, governments were the only entities capable of mounting deception campaigns at scale by virtue of their capability to manage the flow of communications through the media including, for example, printed newspapers and national broadcasting. This was particularly important in active deception campaigns against the Axis powers in World War Two.

Andy described three illustrations of deception capability, firstly Aspidistra the RCA “most powerful transmitter in the world” at the time which was installed in Ashdown Forest and entered service in November 1942. It remained in operation for the duration of the war. Aspidistra transmissions were used to disrupt German night fighter operations by impersonating German ground control operators and sending false instructions to the crews. It also broadcast black propaganda using the identities Atlantiksender and Soldatensender Calais, which posed as official German military radio stations in France.

Operation MINCEMEAT in 1943 was a deception operation to disguise the 1943 Allied invasion of Sicily. Two members of British intelligence, Charles Cholmondeley and Ewen Montagu clandestinely obtained the corpse of a tramp, dressed him as a Royal Marines officer and planted material on him that suggested that the Allies planned to invade Greece rather than Sicily. The body was ‘landed’ close to shore in Spain from a submarine from where it was picked up by unsuspecting fisherman. Some may remember this operation being produced as the film ‘The Man Who Never Was’. Andy showed an image of Cholmondeley and Montagu enroute to deliver the body to the submarine in Scotland.

Operation FORTITUDE was the deception campaign to disguise the true location of the Allied landings in France and used a wide variety of deception techniques including creating phantom armies in both the North and South of the country, further supporting that illusion by deploying inflatable decoy tanks that would look real when viewed from the air.

Tony Sale and The National Museum of Computing on Bletchley Park

Andy explained his connection with Bletchley Park and his association with Tony Sale who he met when trying to obtain cryptographic exhibits for a talk he was giving and that began a long friendship. Tony was the engineer and leader of the team that rebuilt a working copy of the Colossus computer that was used so successfully to break the Lorenz enciphered messages between Hitler and his generals. The rebuild project took 14 years to complete. The Colossus decryption capability was pivotal to the Allies proceeding with the Normandy landings knowing that Hitler had believed the deception of FORTITUDE and maintained his forces away from the real location of the allied landings.

Spy Catcher

Over time Andy learned that although Tony Sale was known for his outstanding engineering talents and driving forward the saving of Bletchley Park, during the Cold War Tony toiled secretly supporting MI5's efforts to identify covert radio transmissions in the UK, signals which were used by hostile intelligence services working to undermine the UK Government and its allies. Andy recommended reading the book "Spy Catcher" written by Peter Wright, published in 1987 and banned from being published in the UK at the time. He related the time when he visited Canada, which had published the book, and filled his suitcase with copies for his return to the UK.

Returning to the theme of deception, Andy explained that instrumental in the success of the Allied invasion of Normandy was the use of Allied agents and the Special Operations Executive (SOE) that had established resistance forces and conducted sabotage operations against the Axis powers' forces.

SOE agents sent behind enemy lines depended on having sufficiently strong (false) identity papers and other material to make them blend in their environment and not raise suspicion as to their true identity and purpose. These papers and other 'litter' had to be produced in the UK and provided to agents before they were smuggled back into France, typically by parachute drop.

Briggens House

Andy talked about Briggens House that I had never heard about before. It was taken over at the beginning of the war as a Polish training centre and by the SOE as a "False Documents Section". It was designated Station XIV. Many Poles who escaped to England helped the war effort greatly as skilled fighter pilots, code breakers, forgers, engravers, printers and artists. The latter four were based at Briggens House and formed the backbone of the team that produced false passports, ID cards, money, postage stamps, ration books, driving licenses, work permits and any other paraphernalia needed to convince the Germans that the holder was genuine.

The National Archive (NA)

Andy became particularly interested in the work of the False Document Section and, together with a colleague, has undertaken research into its work using the facilities of the National Archive.

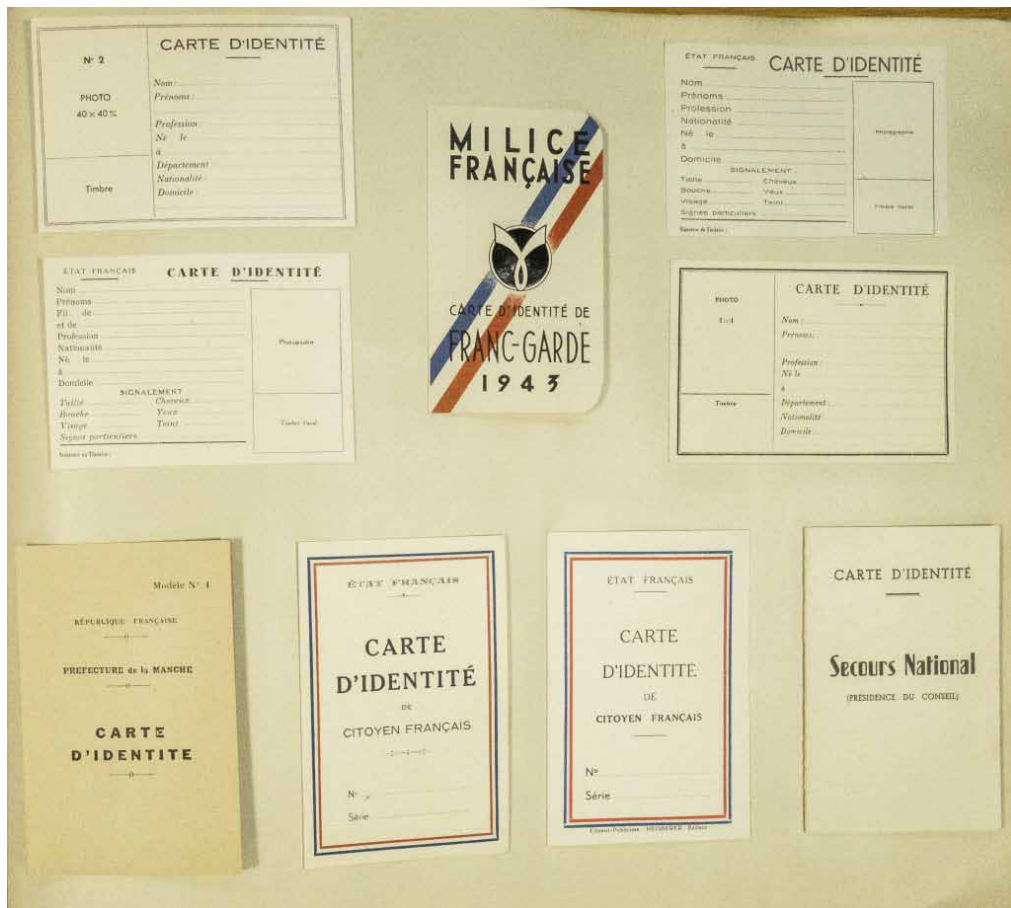
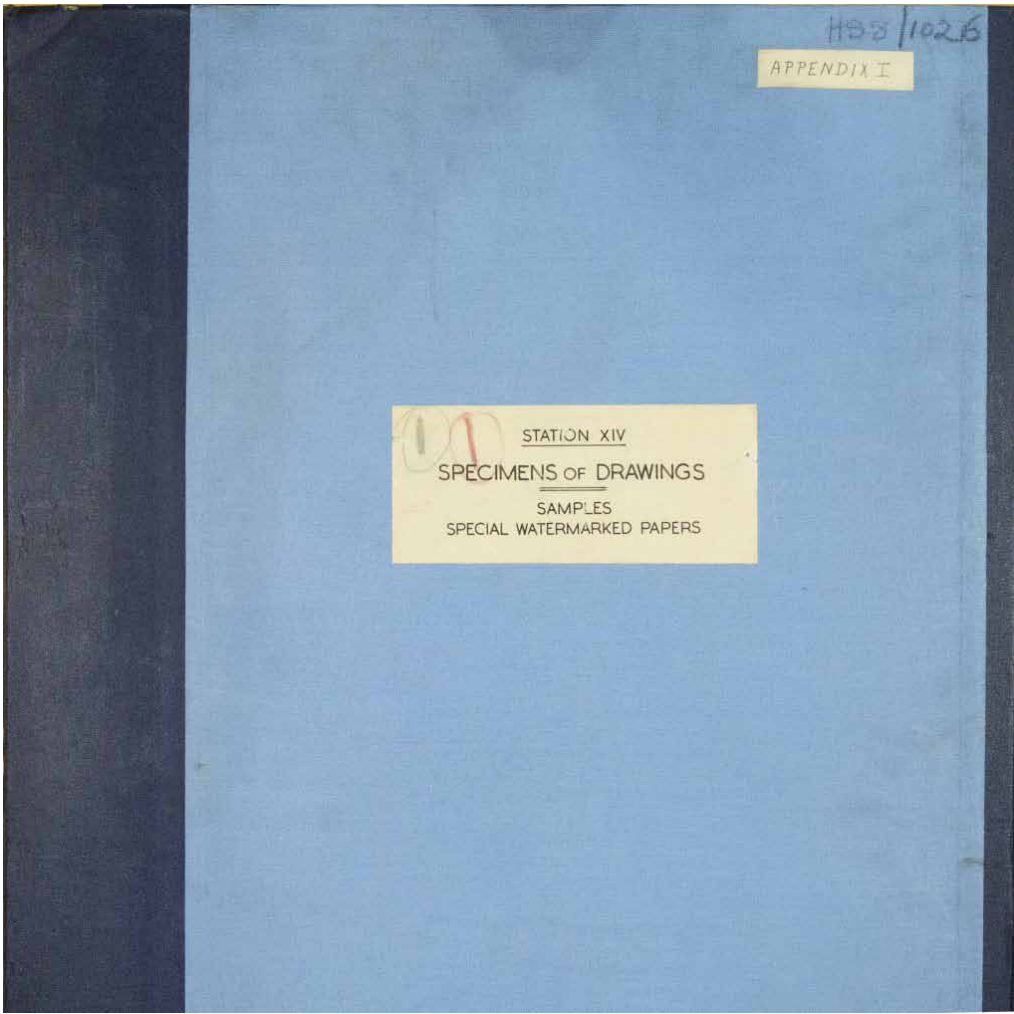
The NA is located in Kew near Richmond, Surrey and holds records of everything and anything. Andy described how he used their online 'Discovery' system to find materials relating to operations at Briggens House and showed photographs he had taken when visiting the NA in person.

In contrast to the 'normal' experience of viewing items from the NA collection in the Reading Rooms it turned out that the Briggens House and SOE material generally were subject to particular controls because of their sensitivity and rarity. Andy and his colleague were escorted into a special Invigilation Reading Room where they could be observed handling and photographing the items. Access in and out of the room is controlled by the NA staff (there's no door handles) and you have to ask to leave to take a comfort break – a little like being back at school.

Before handling any of the material you have to undertake a training course in the proper handling of these priceless artefacts. While this may at first sight seem challenging, the staff at the NA are really helpful and do as much as they can to support visitors to achieve their research objectives.

A very interesting evening, many thanks Andy and we look forward to part 2 next month.

G30GP



CÉDULA PERSONAL

TARIFA CLASE PTAS. CTS.



DIPUTACIÓN
PROVINCIAL
DE
BARCELONA

CÉDULA PERSONAL

AYUNTAMIENTO DE

Nº

AÑO 1942

de

provincia de
estado y profesión
en n.º piso puerta
residente en esta población.

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LUGAR PARA
LA FOTOGRAFIA

EL INTERESADO

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(Nur göltig in Verbindung mit der Kennkarte)
(Alleen geldig tezamen met het persoonsbewijs)

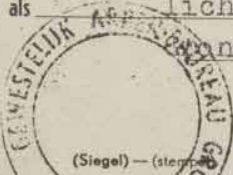
Der ZIJNSTRA, Jan
De heer
geboren am 9.1.23 in Zijldijk
geboren op Zijldijk te Familienstand ledig
wohnhaft in Zijldijk Burgerlijke staat
wonnende te
Kennkarte Nr. Z5/002488
Persoonsbewijs No.

ist vom Arbeitseinsatz ordnungsmässig erfasst und mit Genehmigung des Bezirksarbeitsamtes bei der Firma
is voor den arbeidseinsatz volgens voorschrift ingeschreven en met toestemming van het Gewestelijk Arbeidsbureau bij de firma

E. Wagenborg Scheepvaartbedrijf Delfzijl

als licht Matroos beschäftigt.
Groningen den 16.7.43
werkzaam

Gew. Arbeitsbureau Groningen



(Siegel) — (stempel)

(Unterschrift) — (handtekening)

Der Inhaber hat diesen Ausweis dauernd bei sich zu führen. — De houder dient dit bewijs altijd
Beim Arbeitsplatzwechsel ist der Ausweis beim Bezirksarbeitsamt abzugeben.
Bij verandering van betrekking moet het bewijs bij het Gew. Arbeidsbureau afgegeven worden.

WORDER

6 handtekening



ETAT FRANÇAIS
CONSULAT GÉNÉRAL DE FRANCE A MONACO

SAIE-CONDUIT N°

Certificat de Domicile

Je soussigné, Maire de la commune de Beaucaire, certifie que le sieur [Nom] habitant à [Adresse] est autorisé à séjourner à [Adresse] pendant la durée de son voyage.

UNIVERSITÉ D'AIX-MARSEILLE
FACULTÉ DES LETTRES D'AIX
BACCALAUREAT DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT SECONDAIRE



Ville de BEUCAIRE
GARDE DES VOIES DE COMMUNICATIONS

M. [Nom] demeurant à Beaucaire, L'Auberge de France, Avignon, 28, Place de l'Horloge - Téléphone 5.95

Conformément aux règlements en vigueur, je suis autorisé à séjourner à [Adresse] pendant la durée de son voyage.

Les renseignements sont d'identité. Sanctions graves en cas de fausseté.

ETAT FRANÇAIS
Franzoeslacher Stahl
Laissez-Pass
NACHTZ

Monsieur Herr Profession: Herr Demeurant à [Adresse] est autorisé à séjourner à [Adresse] pendant la durée de son voyage.

Année 1940. Plaque n° PROVINCE DE LIÈGE

PERMISSION

Il est permis au [Nom] d'aller à [Adresse] Il devra rentrer le [Date]

RECEPISSE

DE LA DEMANDE DE PERMIS DE SEJOUR

N. [Nom]	Prénoms [Prénoms]
Nationalité [Nationalité]	Religion [Religion]
Date et lieu de naissance [Date et lieu de naissance]	
Destinée [Destinée]	
et qui devra y résider [et qui devra y résider]	
pour [pour]	
A [A]	le [le]
Le Maire ou le Commissaire de Police :	

ALLER - terminus destination. Coupon de transport gratuit pour un passager sur voie ferrée à remettre à la gare de départ.

N° d'inscriptions de la permission [N° d'inscriptions de la permission]
Nom du [Nom du]
Grade [Grade]
Travail [Travail]
Date [Date]

Certificat de Domicile et de Résidence

Le [Nom] [Prénoms] [Nationalité] [Religion] [Date et lieu de naissance] [Destinée] [et qui devra y résider] [pour] [A] [le]

Le [Nom] [Prénoms] [Nationalité] [Religion] [Date et lieu de naissance] [Destinée] [et qui devra y résider] [pour] [A] [le]

Le [Nom] [Prénoms] [Nationalité] [Religion] [Date et lieu de naissance] [Destinée] [et qui devra y résider] [pour] [A] [le]

(1) C'est-à-dire [C'est-à-dire]
(2) Sans et permis de domicile [Sans et permis de domicile]
(3) Adresse [Adresse]

HARC Spring Fox Hunt Thursday 23rd May

Now that the lighter evenings are with us it's time for our first Thursday evening Fox Hunt.

The start will be at the Mannings Heath Village Hall, Golding Ln, Mannings Heath, Horsham, RH13 6JU.

The first transmission will be at 7:30pm on 144.725MHz and every 10min there after until 9pm.

Map required will be OS Land Ranger sheet 187.

The Fox will be G4HRS/P (alias Adrian G4LRP).

The pub will be at..... you'll have to find me or open the envelope.

Regards

Adrian G4LRP

The future of the HARC repeaters

An update by Mike, G8CKT

It was always Mick's (G4EFO, SK) intention that HARC should take over the management and operation of GB3WS, GB3HO and GB7WS. Accordingly, our Chairman, Adrian (G4LRP), now holds the official Notice of Variation for each repeater from Ofcom. Having made numerous visits to the repeater site at Itchingfield (Adrian describes this as a "voyage of discovery"), it has become abundantly clear that the repeater hardware we have been gifted is "old and tired", now needing more ongoing support to keep it operational. The current hardware for GB3WS is, in fact, not ours -it's the GB3MH backup repeater on-loan from Richard, G4ANN.

At the August 2023 Club Meeting, HARC Members received an update on the repeaters. At this meeting, Adrian (G4LRP) provided a technical introduction to the Club's recently introduced 70cm DMR repeater, GB7WS. Located at Billingshurst this repeater provides local coverage to the Southwest of Horsham. Mick (G4EFO) provided an overview of developments with the 2m and 70cm analogue repeaters, GB3WS and GB3HO which he had funded and managed for many years.

At this point, it's important to be aware that the "Sussex Repeaters" go back a long way (over 40 years in fact). The original development work was carried out by a small group of enthusiasts, including several of our current members. Unfortunately, the need to support multiple repeaters on multiple sites with only a small group became increasingly problematic. Subsequently the group divided with members along the south coast looking after GB3BR and GB3SR and members to the north supporting GB3HO, GB3NX and GB3BP. GB3WX and GB3CP (the two 23 cm repeaters) were subsequently closed while GB3BP at Brantridge Park (the original location of the West Sussex repeater) became GB3WS when the callsign became available. For more than 30 years the ongoing maintenance and management of GB3HO, GB3NX and GB3WS was carried out by G4EFO who worked tirelessly to keep the local Sussex repeaters operational for many years and with several site moves.

GB3BR	Brighton	70 cms
GB3NX	Turners Hill	70 cms
GB3SR	Brighton	2 metres
GB3BP	Worth Abbey	2 metres
GB3HO	Horsham	70 cms
GB3WX	Brighton	23 cms
GB3CP	Crawley	23 cms
GB3WS	North Sussex	2 metres.

Figure 1. *The original Sussex Repeaters*

Where are we now?

So where are we now? Few can doubt that the use of repeaters has fallen across the UK (and Europe in general) over the last 25 years. There are various reasons for this, including the scrapping of the Class B License, concerns over the safety of mobile operating, the availability of low-cost HF equipment, and the introduction of a plethora of new operating modes. And, add to this, the fact that we all carry a mobile phone with us these days!

Despite a long-term downward trend in traffic through the Sussex Repeaters, several new operators have joined the band of repeater users in recent post-COVID times. A quick look through my logbook revealed seven new callsigns active through GB3WS, all club members and several newly licensed. A quantity of Key KM3000 transceivers is currently available to Club Members at very low cost and will undoubtedly generate more traffic through GB3WS.

The Club's repeaters are key to advertising our presence. After all, we don't have a permanent headquarters like some other local clubs, we don't take part in Field Day events and, although we do have plenty of social activities, if you want to hear club members on the air (and possibly join them!) you only have two choices. The club nets (Saturday, Sunday, and Tuesday) and – you've guessed it – the repeaters!

A cause for concern

Best described as a "work in progress", our (currently unserviceable) flagship repeater. GB3WS, has become a particular cause for concern. It is based on two commercial Icom transceivers that are now showing their age and, together with the cavities, antennas, and controller, is in need of replacement. To solve this problem and provide members and visitors with continued repeater services on 2m and 70cm we need a "fit and forget" solution that's based on purpose designed hardware with a modern, accessible and configurable control system.



Figure 2. *The (currently unserviceable) GB3WS repeater*

The repeater sites

The GB3HO and GB3WS repeaters are located at Itchingfield. The elevated site provides reasonable coverage of Horsham and its immediate surroundings. Unfortunately, the site is screened by a ridge running to the south, but it is still possible to access both repeaters using mobile and base station equipment from Cowfold in the East to Billingshurst in the West. Fortunately, the site owner is very friendly and supportive. He has also suggested improvements to the antenna system, including raising the antennas. The site is effectively provided free of charge – something that’s difficult to find these days! For this reason, we have no plans to relocate GB3HO and GB3WS in the immediate future. The Club’s 70cm DMR repeater will eventually need to be relocated to a new site. In any event, GB7WS is seen as a lower priority and before carrying out tests for any new site we aim to complete the work on GB3WS and GB3HO.

What are we doing about it?

After some considerable discussion at a recent Committee Meeting, we have taken the decision to embark on a major project to replace and upgrade the Club’s repeaters. The aims of this project are to:

- Safeguard the existing 2m and 70cm coverage in and around Horsham for those using low-power hand-held and mobile equipment whilst at the same time, ensuring base station access for those who live further afield.
- Provide an effective upgrade path for those who would like to try digital voice without compromising analogue operation. This would, at the present time, be in addition to the DMR service that the Club provides on 70cm via GB7WS.
- Significantly improve reliability and minimize maintenance requirements.

Immediate plans

During the next month, or so, we intend to replace the existing GB3WS and GB3HO repeaters with YAESU DR-2X digital/conventional FM dual mode repeaters. These cover the VHF and UHF amateur radio bands. In addition, we aim to simplify the cavities and RF filters with new “cavity packs” and mount the equipment in a proper 19-inch rack. The work will be carried out by a small team of committee members. Following on-air testing of the new installation we will also seek to install a new mast at the site with an improved antenna arrangement.

One important advantage of the DR-2X repeaters is that they permit AMS (Automatic Mode Selection) where the repeater automatically recognizes an incoming signal as either C4FM digital or conventional FM. The repeater then re-transmits the signal using the current communications mode. Note that System Fusion is incompatible with DMR and D-STAR GMSK digital formats. The DR-2X repeater also offers a variety of other features (e.g., repeater linking) but we do not intend to implement any of these initially. The committee has set aside a budget of £3000 for this project.



Figure 3. A Yaesu DR-2X System Fusion repeater (supporting both analogue and digital voice communication)

Footnote

In the UK, there are currently 186 2m voice repeaters of which 60 are dual mode, i.e., analogue, and digital. The number of digital mode repeaters is slowly increasing with DMR, Icom's D-star, and Yaesu System Fusion sharing the market (note that the Club already has a DMR repeater, GB7WS). The majority of the System Fusion (C4FM) repeaters are in the North with few in the South. Sussex is poorly catered for and there's a large gap in coverage to the South of the M25.



Figure 4. System Fusion (C4FM) repeaters in the UK



Broadcast Listener

By David Ansell and David Miller

2EONKC

All times BST and frequencies in MHz or kHz

Long-Medium wave

Radio 4 198 continues after April 1st due to 900,000 energy customers who use Radio Teleswitching service needing time to upgrade their meters. It looks that the BBC will close the radio station on this frequency at the end of June 2025. However, relays on Medium wave such as Crystal Palace 720 and Redmoss on 1449 are being switched off on April 15th. Carillon Wellbeing Radio, Coalville audible at my QTH closed on March 31st.

Short wave

Many stations QSY-ed on March 31st except North Korea whom I noticed changed on March 26th! Voice of Korea, Pyongyang now 14:00 on 15245 and 13760; 19:00 on 15245, 22:00 on 15245 and 13760. Radio Marti in Spanish to Cuba heard 07:00 on 7435 and 7355. A new Radio Marti broadcast to Cuban troops in Ukraine is at 18:00 Mon – Fri on 17680 via Greenville. This station is a US government outlet.

TWR, Estawini, sign on at 20:05 on 15105. Radio WWCN, Nashville heard at 08:00 on 5935. World's Last Chance Radio heard via WBCQ, Maine at 08:00 on 9330. Radio Japan, Yamata heard at 21:00 to Pacific on 12040. Radio WMLK, Bethel heard well at 08:00 on 15150 with a sermon. Adventist World Radio via Orzu, Tajikistan has English at 15:00 on 15505. The amateur radio show on CQ Serenade is on Mondays at 20:00 on 3975 via Germany.

Here are a few of the new schedules:-

All in English

Voice of Turkey

13:30 on 17620; 1930 on 9750 and 23:00 on 11785

Radio Romania

06:30 on 11960; 12:00 on 17630; 21:30 on 13650; 23:00 on 11800

BBC World Service

via Ascension Island; 18:00 on 15400

VoA

via Botswana 15:00+ on 15580

via Greenville 18:30 on 17530

Vatican Radio

17:15 on 15595 (World news)

21:00 on 9705 and 11870



QSL's received

M0FXX, Henley-On-Thames, 144.345 – card for QSO

G8CUL, East Hagbourne, Oxon – card for 2 metres QSO

KBS World Radio, Seoul, 9515 and 7275 – special 70th anniversary QSL card. Broadcast started in 1953

WBCQ, Montecello, 9330 – card from World's Last Chance Radio

Radio Free Asia, 12050 via Kuwait – QSL card showing The Year Of The Dragon 2024 and frequency schedule

Radio Japan, 7430 via Yamata – QSL showing a "smiling" sculpture

HTWR, Agana, Guam, 9910 – card showing island view along with letter and schedule



G4JHI

Robbie Vincent

This time I'm going to look at veteran broadcaster Robbie Vincent. When I started my second job during in the 1970's I used to ride a bicycle to work along to the Brighton Road in Horsham. Nearby there was a bike shop which not only sold bicycles but also offered repairs. I took my bike there for maintenance from time to time and there was this transistor radio which was either tuned to BBC Radio 1 or BBC Radio London.

When the latter was booming out, I heard this soul music programme and Robbie Vincent was the DJ of the show. As the years went on Robbie ran phone ins on the same station and for several years the same on a late evening slot on LBC followed by one in the afternoon. Now I will point out that I tuned into LBC on 97.3 FM but in 1985 Radio Mercury opened a new relay for Horsham on 97.5 FM with the aerials on top of the original Sun Alliance building. Although I had a roof aerial but living not that far away from that Radio Mercury's new transmitter service splattered all over LBC!

One solution was to use the Medium wave service but that wasn't very good in Horsham during the hours of darkness due to co-channel interference. So, I built a tunable filter which I put in line before the coax enters the receiver which did in fact resolve the issue for the FM service. But I was only able to get a mono signal as if one tried stereo there was a lot of hiss. When the Sun Alliance building was knocked down to some extent the local transmitter aerials were moved to the side of Horsham Arts Centre where they still are today but broadcasting Heart.

Strangely enough today I am able to get a usable signal of LBC on 97.3 FM but that is probably due to the lower signal level from Heart and my well screened house TV/radio distribution system. As time went on Robbie also ran a soul show on Radio 1, Kiss FM and Jazz FM. The Radio 1 shows did go out on Sunday evenings at a time when the station was also broadcast on FM where they took over the FM frequency from Radio 2.

When his show was on Saturday evenings that wasn't quite so good as it went out on Medium wave but during that time or some of that time I remember that they opened a temporary transmitter on 104.8 FM from Crystal Palace. Since there weren't so many other stations nearby coverage came through Horsham and beyond in favourable areas. Following hearing a New Years Eve Robbie Vincent special back in 2021 on Jazz FM I've started listening regularly to his weekend show.

It's called Music Garden and goes out on the same station Sunday lunchtimes although I use the listen again feature on the website or Jazz FM app purely due to the time of the weekly broadcast. Now Robbie has always had a catch phrase and back in the 1980's when I was driving to work listening to the Radio 1 breakfast show, each week there would be a trailer for the soul show which would end "if it moves funk it!"

Diary

May 2nd, Club Night: Deception as a Service 1991- 2024 - Andy Clark G8TJQ

May 7th, 144MHz FMAC 19:00 - 19:55
144MHz UKAC 20:00 - 22:30

May 8th, Visit to Surrey Satellites - Guildford 14:00

May 9th, 50MHz UKAC 20:00 - 22:30

May 13th, 80m SSB Club Championship 20:00 - 21:30

May 14th, 432MHz FMAC 19:00 - 19:55
432MHz UKAC 20:00 - 22:30

May 16th, Social Evening: The Dog and Bacon - Horsham
<https://www.horshampub.co.uk>

May 22nd, 80m Data Club Championship 20:00 - 21:30

May 23rd, Thursday Evening Fox Hunt 19:30

May 30th, 80m CW Club Championship 20:00 - 21:30

For details on the above contests use this link and follow to the appropriate section
<https://rsgb.org/main/radio-sport/what-is-radio-sport>

All above times are BST

Committee/Club Meetings and Socials start at 20:00