

The Newsletter of the
Royal Naval Amateur
Radio Society
Winter 2015



Bill Jennings - GØIEC. Page twenty-four

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Items published in the Newsletter do not necessarily represent the views of the RNARS.

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Chairman's Chat

Welcome to the winter edition of the Newsletter. Once again Colin has pulled off another interesting edition with grateful thanks to the few who continue to supply copy to him.

We have now entered that phase of darker nights and the thought of Christmas festivities about to descend upon us. To some they will be eagerly looked forward to and no doubt quite a few will be having a quiet moan about the damage about to be rendered to their bank balance.

The extended program for this year's AGM was appreciated by all those who attended possibly helped along by the introduction of "Up Spirits" followed by "Hands to Dinner".

Our President was once again beaten into second place for the person travelling the furthest distance by Hans DK9OS & Maren DK9MOS who had travelled over from Hamburg. Hans was unaware that he was attending until a week before as Maren had arranged it all as a special birthday treat for him.

Sadly we have lost quite a few members this year, including our Patron, who have now joined that big radio club somewhere in space. Like many others I think that the loss of Diana, that wonderful lady who for so many years ran the Data Comms, hit hard. She will be greatly missed. I am very grateful to Dave, G4JBE, for stepping in so quickly preventing any break in that very important part our organisation.

With 2016 nearly upon us my greatest wish will be for less silent keys and more new members. We have no control over the former but you, with a little effort, could certainly help to attaining the later.

On behalf of the committee I wish you all a very happy festive season and hope that 2016 will be a good year for you.

Doug

Operation Tracer; or between a Rock and a hard place!

Details of Operation Tracer have been shrouded in mystery until a fascinating document from the files of Naval Intelligence at the Public Records Office, Kew, recently came to light. The plan, hatched during the darkest days of the Second World War, was for six men to be sealed in a cave with only two small openings to the outside world and enough supplies for one year. They were told there would be no way out and anyone who died within the chamber would have to be embalmed and cemented into the walls. Only if Germany was defeated within a year would they be released.

The volunteers, two Doctors, three signalmen and their leader, would run an observation post from two 12" by 6" slits, one looking due east over the Mediterranean and the other over the Straits and harbour. All shipping movements would be radioed to the Admiralty.

With the fall of France in 1940 there was only Spain between Hitler and his desire to invade Gibraltar and take control of all naval movements in the Mediterranean. He had already helped General Franco to power and it was feared the Spanish dictator would permit the Germans to march through Spain to the Rock. This was seen as a very real threat and by the end of the summer of 1941 ideas for a series of observation posts, firstly in Gibraltar and later in places like Malta and Aden, were put together as Operation Tracer.

Work at Gibraltar began immediately under Commander Geoffrey Birley and his Chief Engineer, Colonel Fordham. The site chosen at Lord Airey's Battery on the southern tip of the Rock already had an existing tunnel used as a shelter. By the end of 1941 construction work was under way on the chamber where the men would live.

This would be 45ft x 16ft x 8ft with a tank containing 10,000 gallons of water and a passage section for the radio. As the whole plan depended on the communications system much thought was given to the radio installation. The equipment would be run from three small 12 volt 120ah batteries which in turn would be powered by two generators, one powered by a bicycle and the other by hand. An outside aerial would be vital. A rod 18 feet long was to be pushed out of one of the openings when required. Extensive trials were carried out

in January 1942 under the eye Colonel Gambier-Parry, an MI6 radio expert.

Much thought was also given to the type of men needed for such a strange and demanding task. Murray Levick, a member of Scott's ill-fated Antarctic expedition was called up a Surgeon Commander to advise on survival techniques. There were practical matters such as diet, exercise, sanitation and clothing to consider as well as the psychology of the personnel. In March a coded message was sent to Commander Gibraltar announcing the arrival of a Lt. White asking for full cooperation and reminding everyone that the ultimate success of Operation Tracer depends on 100% security. The rest of the team arrived on the Rock with jobs to cover their presence and signals on the Operation Tracer file announced the appointment of Surgeon-Lt's Cooper and Milne, both of the RNVR, who arrived on HMS Cormorant that summer on an operation "on the instructions of the First Sea Lord." The full team were in place by the end of the summer of 1942 and their cavern was fully quipped and ready for occupation. A comprehensive manual was prepared on all aspects of the operation and was considered that similar secret look-out posts should be prepared throughout the world in the event of future wars. Happily, the Gibraltar Tracer was never called in to commission as Hitler turned his attention away from Gibraltar towards the Eastern Front. The six volunteers were eventually stood down after a year, the stores and equipment removed and the cave blocked up.

Today, more than half a century later there is still an intriguing part of the operation still to be discovered - the manual of Operation Tracer. This contains full and elaborate details on what food, clothing and tools would be required and even a list of preferred books for the library. Should the manual ever come to light it would be interesting to find out about the radio aspects, such as procedures, watch-keeping routines, codes and details of the transmitter and receiver. It would be intriguing to find out who the telegraphists were and if they are still around (possibly even RNARS members?).

Finally, in common with most of the readership I had the pleasure of many "good runs" in Gibraltar but during that time I never gave a thought to how Gibraltar got its name. That is, not until I spent a week's holiday there in October 1997, at the Caletta Palace Hotel,

Catalan Bay, Where incidentally, some of the ship's company of HM Submarine Torbay were billeted for a few days (happy hour was never the same once they left). I digress. During the Rock's history it has been invaded, captured, laid under siege, recaptured and so on by a succession of North African tribes. One such tribe was led by a prince TARIK and the Rock was known by the Arabic word JEBEL meaning hill or mountain, hence JEBEL TARIK, which over the centuries has been alliterated to Gibraltar.

John G4KGT/1364

Radio Officers Association

member Bruce Morris (GW4XXF) has commissioned a foundry to reproduce authentic MN style door plates in high quality solid brass. The size is approximately 7 CM by 3½ CM. The plaques cost twenty pounds and if you are interested, Bruce can be contacted by e-mail: bruce@gw4xxf.freeonline.co.uk or by post: 62 Gerllan, Tywyn, LL36 9DE, UK



Face behind the camera

Frank GØLFI was one of the roving **HMS Collingwood Open Day** RNARS television camera operators streaming video across the internet.

A report of the Open Day is included in the rally reports.



L/C-ratio of parallel resonant circuits with ring core coils

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In the Summer 2009 Newsletter I published the report: A study on ring core coils. Here now follows a continuation.

Introduction

The focus of this report is the L/C-ratio of different parallel resonant circuits (because all are parallel resonant circuits I use following the designation resonant circuit only). Based on hundreds of measurement results from the above mentioned study I have investigated which tendencies the curves of the following data will have, if they are presented as a function of the L/C-ratio.

- < resonant frequency f_r [MHz] (following always designated as „f“ only)
- < Δf [MHz] at 3 [dB] and 6 [dB] voltage drop
- < inductivity L [μ H] < product $L \times C$ [μ HxpF] < quality factor Q [-]
- < capacitive reactance X_C [Ω] < inductive reactance X_L [Ω]
- < characteristic impedance X [Ω] of a resonant circuit

To call to mind again for the readers following the mathematical derivation of the connection between the capacitive and inductive reactances X_C and X_L , L/C-ratio and the characteristic impedance X :

$$X_C = 1/2\pi f C \quad > \quad C = 1/2\pi f X_C \quad X_L = 2\pi f L \quad > \quad L = X_L/2\pi f \\ L/C = X_L/2\pi f \times 1/(1/2\pi f X_C) = X_L \times X_C$$

At the frequency of resonance is $X_L = X_C$ and by this:
 $L/C = X_L \times X_C = X_L \times X_L = X_L^2$ (respectively X_C^2)

The dimension of the L/C-ratio is:

$$L [H] / C [F] = L [Vs/A] / C [As/V] = L/C [V^2/A^2] = L/C [\Omega^2]$$

and with the dimensions of L [μ H] and C [pF] is:

$$(L [\mu H] \times 10^{-6} / C [pF] \times 10^{-12}) [\Omega^2] = (L [\mu H] / C [pF]) \times 10^6 [\Omega^2]$$

The characteristic impedance X is: $X = \{ (L [\mu H] / C [pF]) \times 10^6 \}^{0,5} [\Omega]$

General remarks

In some of the diagrams not all measuring (or calculated) points are presented with circles, but so many as required to determine exactly the tendency of the concerning curves. In the chapter „Introduction“ is mentioned that $(L [\mu\text{H}] / C [\text{pF}]) \times 10^6$ has the dimension $[\Omega^2]$.

It has to be observed that, because of space-reasons, the L/C-values in the various diagrams are not $[\Omega^2]$, but $[\mu\text{H}/\text{pF}]$. This leads to shorter numbers for the scales at the X- and Y-axis. Example:

$$L/C = (8.208 [\mu\text{H}] / 274 [\text{pF}]) \times 10^6 = 29956 [\Omega^2]$$

$$L/C = 8,208 [\mu\text{H}] / 274 [\text{pF}] = 0,029956 \approx 0,03 [\mu\text{H}/\text{pF}]$$

This numerical simplification has no influence on the tendencies of the presented curves!

Of course all required calculations are made with „L/C $[\Omega^2]$ “!

All presented diagrams (figure 1 to figure 7) are self-explaining. Nevertheless the one or other result/presentation will be treated in detail in the chapter „Comments on the results“.

Starting position

Based on the mentioned measurement results I calculated the L/C-ratios of the different resonant circuits as a basis for the diagrams.

From the data collection of my mentioned study I selected those of two variations of resonant circuits for this treatise, which is, as a result, divided into part 1 and part 2.

Additional is treated in part 3 the influence of the A_L -value on the characteristic values of resonant circuits.

Part 1

The L-alteration was made at three resonant circuits with ring core coils of different ring core sizes (T68-2, T94-2 and T106-2) by means of the reduction of the number of windings and the rest of them always

spreaded around to keep the angle of contact the same as at the beginning: $\varphi \approx 300$ [°], while the capacity C was always kept constant.

The results are presented in the figures 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

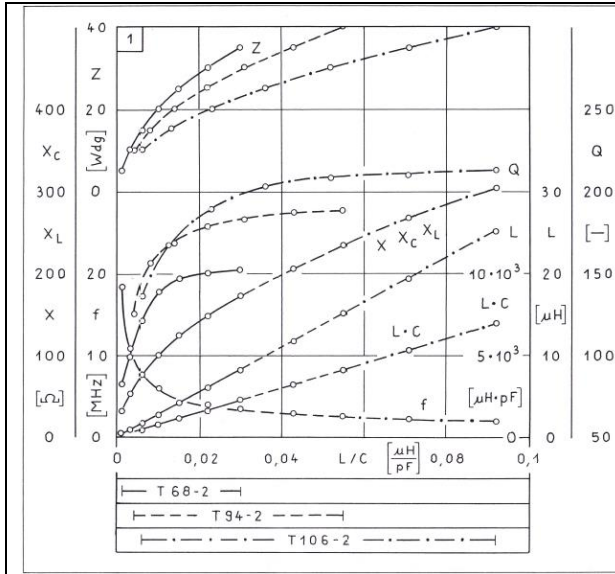


Figure 1

Characteristic curves of three resonant circuits with ring core coils of different ring core sizes (T68-2, T94-2 and T106-2) dependent on the L/C-ratio in $\mu\text{H/pF}$, $C = 274$ [pF] = const

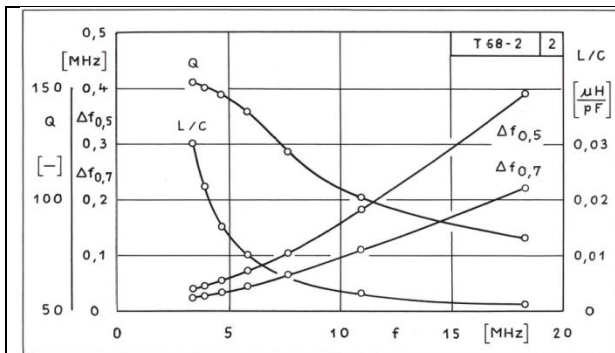


Figure 2

Completion to figure 1: $\Delta f_{0,7}$ and $\Delta f_{0,5} = f$ (f) Additional: Q and $L/C = f$ (f)

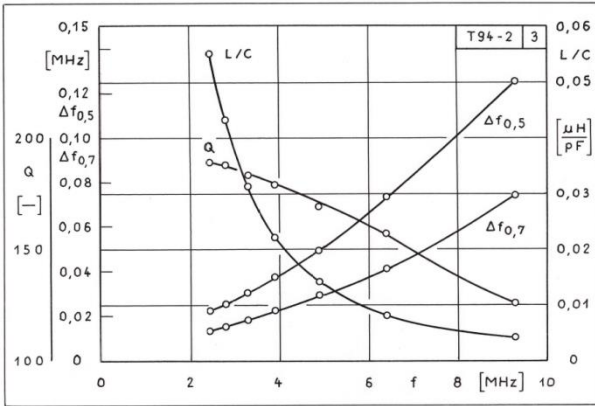


Figure 3

Completion to figure 1: $\Delta f_{0,7}$ and $\Delta f_{0,5} = f$ (f)
Additional: Q and $L/C = f$ (f)

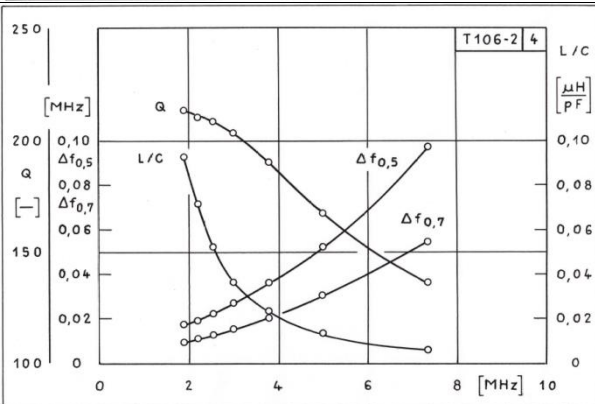


Figure 4

Completion to figure 1: $\Delta f_{0,7}$ and $\Delta f_{0,5} = f$ (f)
Additional: Q and $L/C = f$ (f)

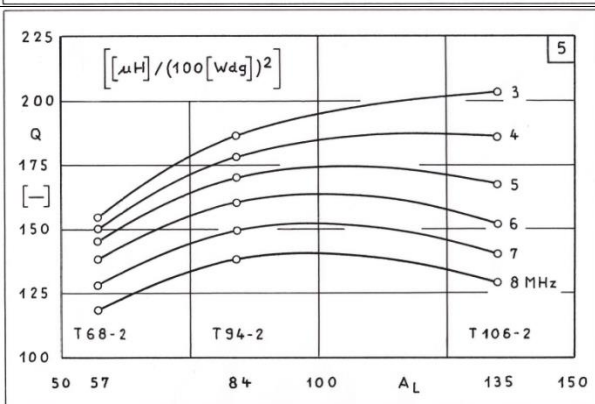


Figure 5

$Q = f(A_L)$ at different frequencies
(Q -values taken out from the figures 2, 3 and 4)

Part 2

This resonant circuit was the typical one as used in receivers for tuning: $L = \text{const}$ and the C -alteration by means of a variable disk capacitor.

The results can be seen in the figures 6 and 7

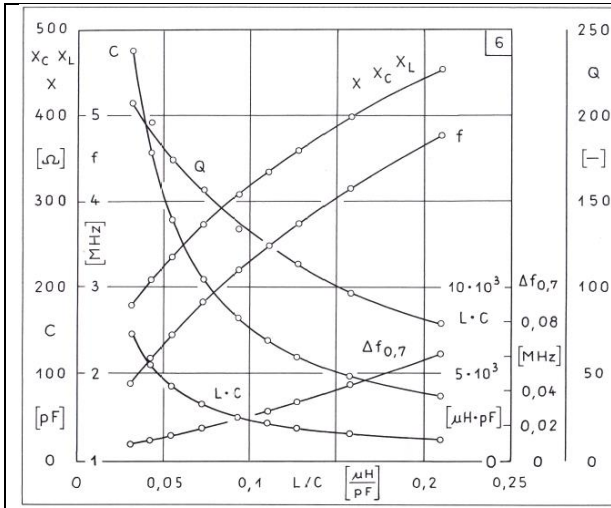


Figure 6

Characteristic curves of a resonant circuit with a ring core coil (ring core size T94-2), dependent on the L/C -ratio in $[\mu\text{H}/\text{pF}]$, $L = 15,3 [\mu\text{H}] = \text{const}$

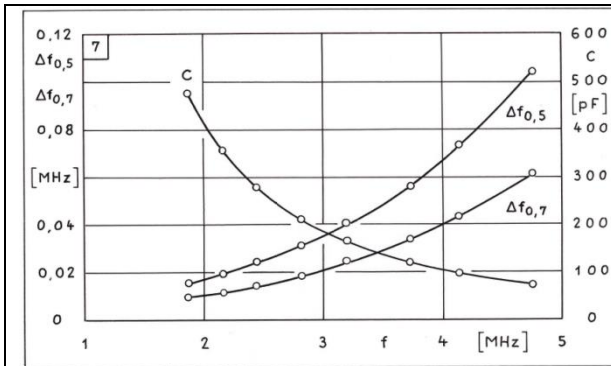


Figure 7

Completion to figure 6: $\Delta f_{0,7}$ and $\Delta f_{0,5} = f(f)$
Additional: $C = f(f)$

Comments on the results

It is a well-known recommendation to get a high quality factor Q of resonant circuits if the L/C -ratio is high, that means high L and low C .

But: is this really true and the most important detail which has to be observed to design a „good“ resonant circuit?

In the Thomson equation to calculate the resonant frequency, $f = 1/2\pi[(LxC)^{0,5}]$ the product LxC is constant for a certain frequency. That means one can alter L or C to get always the same product LxC and by this the same frequency. Of course this has technical limits: to increase the L it is normally necessary to increase the number of windings and because of that the resistor R of the coil wire increases too which leads consequently to a decrease of Q ! ($Q = (L/C)^{0,5}/R$)

Following some comments to the parts 1 and 2

1 - Two remarks to the results presented in figure 1:

The linear increase of L (and by this the linear increase of L/C) does not affect the quality factor Q ($= f/\Delta f_{0,7}$) in the same way: the Q -curves have the shape of an exponential function (Thomson equation!), that means they are very steep at the beginning at high frequencies and with decrease of the frequencies they show a slight increase only.

To mention is also the influence of the value of the inductivity constant A_L of the ring cores on Q and the required number of windings Z to reach a certain inductivity L . With greater A_L -values increases Q (but the Q -curves have the same shape as mentioned before) and less windings are required.

Not to see in figure 1 are the values of $\Delta f_{0,7}$ and $\Delta f_{0,5}$ because they do not depend on L/C only, but on the frequency, the ring core size respectively the A_L -value and Q . They are presented for each of the three ring core sizes in the figures 2, 3 and 4

This separate presentation was therefore chosen, because in this way one can see very clearly the connections between the various influence

quantities on $\Delta f_{0,7}$ and $\Delta f_{0,5}$: high L/C leads at low frequencies to little $\Delta f_{0,7}$ -values and consequently high Q with the result to achieve slim resonant curves, that means good selectivity.

A very interesting group of curves shows figure 5. Unfortunately I do not have more data to find out whether this behaviour/these tendencies are generally valid or only for the here existing values respectively ring core coils/resonant circuits. Nevertheless: these results are of great interest (and not to find somewhere in the technical literature!).

2- Dependent on L/C [$\mu\text{H}/\text{pF}$] presents figure 1 the curves of resonant circuits with L-alteration ($C = \text{const}$) while figure 6 shows the curves of a resonant circuit with C-alteration ($L = \text{const}$), likewise presented dependent on L/C [$\mu\text{H}/\text{pF}$].

One can see in figure 6 the clear difference of the tendencies of the curves compared with those in figure 1.

How one can explain the different tendencies of these curves, which are in both figures presented dependent on L/C [$\mu\text{H}/\text{pF}$]?

The explanation is a very simple one:

< starting (in figure 1) with the highest L-value of each ring core coil the L-alteration leads to lower L-values and consequently the L/C-ratio becomes lower.

< starting (in figure 6) with the highest C-value of the variable disk capacitor the C-alteration leads to lower C-values and consequently the L/C-ratio becomes higher.

That in both diagrams the curves of $X = X_C = X_L$ have the same tendency is based on their calculation method.

3 - How does the A_L -value influence the characteristic values of resonant circuits, if, for comparison, the chosen L/C-ratio is the same?

To this an example:

The values of L, C, f and Q of two resonant circuits with the same $L/C = 0,09 \text{ } [\mu\text{H}/\text{pF}]$, the one with L-alteration (column 1), the other with C-alteration (column 4), can be seen in figure 8

For the comparison-calculation the conversion-factors X and Y were laid down as:

$$X = A_L \text{ of T106-2} / A_L \text{ of T94-2} = 135 [\dots] / 84 [\dots] = 1,607 [-]$$

$$Y = A_L \text{ of T94-2} / A_L \text{ of T106-2} = 84 [\dots] / 135 [\dots] = 0,622 [-]$$

Note: the A_L -value has the dimension $\{ [\mu\text{H}] / (100 [\text{Wdg}])^2 \}$,
above simplified written [...]

And with these factors were converted:

< the values of column 1 into the values of column 3

< the values of column 4 into the values of column 6

As result is to see that no extreme great differences exist between the values of

< column 3 and those of column 4

< column 6 and those of column 1

8			$L/C = 0,09 [\mu\text{H}/\text{pF}]$					
			$T\ 106-2 \quad A_L = 135 [\dots]$			$T\ 94-2 \quad A_L = 84 [\dots]$		
			L - alteration			C - alteration		
			$C = 274 [\text{pF}] = \text{const}$			$L = 15,3 [\mu\text{H}] = \text{const}$		
			Column					
			1	2	3	4	5	6
1	L	μH	24,8	$24,8 \cdot Y$	15,43	15,3	$15,3 \cdot X$	24,59
2	f	MHz	1,9	$1,9 \cdot X$	3,053	3,13	$3,13 \cdot Y$	1,947
3	Q	—	212,5	$212,5 \cdot Y$	132,2	140	$140 \cdot X$	225
4	C	pF	274	$274 \cdot Y$	170,4	170	$170 \cdot X$	273,2
The dimension of the A_L -value is mentioned in the text!								

Figure 8: Conversions to demonstrate the influence of the A_L -value

Regarding these conversion-results has to be taken into account that the values in the columns 1 and 4 are taken out of the diagrams and therefore little numerical differences/deviations can not be avoided. But independent of this it is clearly to see the influence of the A_L -value respectively that one of different ring core sizes (T94-2 and T106-2) of the same material! Conclusion: *the L/C-ratio for itself can not be the sole and decisive criteria neither for the design nor for the judgement of the „quality“ (quality here not in the sense of „Q“ only!) of a resonant circuit!*

Bibliography

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2. Karl H. Hille (DL1VU) - Vom Elektron zum Schwingkreis
3. Hans-Joachim Fischer - Amateurfunk
4. Jürgen H. Timcke - Study on ring core coils



Visitors to the HQ shack during HMS Collingwood open day included; Rosie our former Ex-Officio, Martin MØEHL (serving member) and Rosie's son (left).

Me and My Shack

Most of us make do with a little corner of a spare room or a shed in the garden to set up our amateur radio shack. Others have a wee bit more space; like Bernhard Pfander HB9ASZ who has created his shack based on a ships radio room with genuine fittings and equipment salvaged from vessels, he even has room for a ships bunk and a corner for his wee Scottie dog to sleep below the desk.



The mahogany desk came from a scrapped Italian passenger ship; Livenza and the Dancom HF/MF transmitter came from the Panamanian reefer Omagh which Bernhard got from an old Irish radio maintainer who worked for Irish Lights.

The SAIT medium wave set was used on the Belgian dredger Vlaanderen 19/VRUG3 (Hong Kong flag) and came from his Belgian RNARS friend Bart, ON4CAB, who rescued it from being scrapped. Heinz DL4BW, also a former R/O sold him the SAIT MR14501 all band receiver, after lots of enquiries in the German radio officers association Seefunkkameradschaft.

Bernhard found the yellow Fortuna lifeboat radio by chance at a radio flea market in France. According to the trader, the radio was from a French Ferry that sailed in the Mediterranean.

Equipment from left to right:

- Dancom HF 400 transmitter (MF and HF) with an auto alarm on 2182.
- Wavecom W4100 signal decoder with screen (used for decoding maritime weather, I got this gem for five Pounds from my former employer; Swiss radio monitoring service.
- YAESU FT-1000, my former main transceiver.
- DRAKE SPR-4 with synthesizer FS-4, my beloved first real HF receiver, which I still use on HF and long waves.
- YAESU FT-2000.
- To the far right you can see my rack with the SAIT (Belgium) maritime MW CW transmitter MT430B, the Autoalarm AA2002, the all band receiver MR14501 and the automatic distress keyer AK5011.

My shack gives me a real cosy maritime feeling when operating my amateur radio station. Unfortunately I don't have the space for more equipment; the rest of the room is taken by my huge Morse key collection and original furniture from the Italian vessel M/N Giuseppe Verdi such as a bunk and two cupboards full of maritime literature.

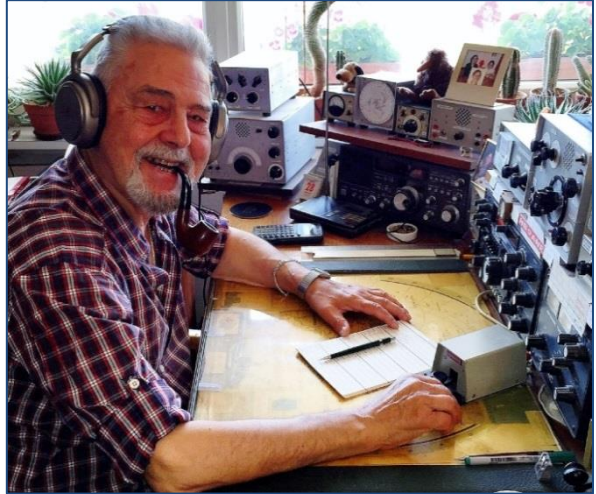
Picture: Bernie aboard RV Braveheart from Durban South Africa to the Kerguelen Islands for the FT5XO DX-expedition by the Micro Lite Penguins DX Group in 2005.



Bernie RN2539

And staying on the subject of **me and my shack**, here's one taken by Karin I Timcke of her father; Jürgen H Timcke.

Do you have a facial picture of you in your shack? Please send it in. It lets others see who they are talking to.



RNARS Yahoo group and E-news

Following the sad news of Diana's (GØRNO) passing, David Lacey (G4JBE) has stepped in to moderate and run the RNARS Yahoo group as well as composing and distributing the Sunday RNARS E-news.

David would be very grateful if members can send in items of news pertaining to maritime activities, RNARS gossip, amateur radio news or anything that will be of interest to the membership. David's e-mail address is: G4JBE@yahoo.co.uk



With regards to the RNARS Yahoo group e-mails, please remember that it is a text only service. It does not distribute pictures or attached files.

Operation Samaritan

“HMS Tyne, Flagship of C-in-C Home Fleet, was headed for Gibraltar, via Bilbao, Northern Spain. Once in Gibraltar the C-in-C was to be the Senior Officer of a Nato Minesweeping exercise, the broadcast for which would be run from Gibraltar Comcen, operated by four Sparkers from HMS Tyne; myself and three senior ROs.

After a few days in Bilbao HMS Tyne sailed for Gibraltar and within a couple of hours a very long “Ops Immediate” grouper was received, which when decoded, revealed the horror of the Agadir earthquake. Our orders were to proceed with all despatch to Gibraltar (17Kts with a following wind and tide) where relief supplies (tents, water purification equipment, food and medical supplies plus a number of pre-fabricated building materials) would be loaded within 12 hours (actually completed in just over 8 hours) and then proceed to a safe anchorage off Agadir.

It also added that the minesweeping had been cancelled, HMS Tyne would assume “Comms Guardship” duties on arrival, and that the erstwhile minesweeping comms team would be left behind to operate the “rescue” frequency at Gibraltar Comcen, where the reports from the area would be passed to the Admiralty via the Fixed Service.

The comms team were billeted in HMS Rooke, and slotted neatly into the watch keeping routine. We even had our own dedicated “Tilly” and Wren driver to convey us on and off watch. After some days the international rescue operation gathered momentum, other military vessels arrived and as telephone communications facilities were restored ashore, HMS Tyne was stood down and proceeded back to Gibraltar, where the comms team re-joined the ship.”

As you can imagine, after fifty-five years much of the nitty-gritty of what happened when HMS Tyne first arrived at the scene has been forgotten, sufficient to say that all the relief equipment was conveyed ashore, put to good use by the ship’s company, not forgetting the medical effort by the MO and a few SBA’s, who worked tirelessly to stop the spread of any diseases, mainly typhoid.

There is a singular lack of information on Wikipedia regarding “Operation Samaritan” by the Royal Navy, with references to

IWM Media licences, so I suspect one would need to pay a fee to see official version.

John G4KGT 1364



ATV News

The newly established ATV Group SCART (Solent Collingwood Amateur Radio & Television) is now active and meets in the RNARS radio shack at HMS Collingwood, one evening per month. The repeater, once in operation on the IOW has been dismantled and moved to its current location in a room adjacent to the RNARS shack.

The Scart Group is affiliated to the RNARS, so any prospective members must join the RNARS for a current low membership fee of £5 per year which is excellent value for money. Once the appropriate form for the Establishments' Security and the shack has been completed, a pass will be issued and will cover one person and authorised vehicle entry, for that year. Entry to the shack at any time other than the scheduled ATV meetings is by prior arrangement with the shack manager, or a current key holder.

We are looking for new members who have an interest in Amateur Radio or ATV to join the local group. Cost of membership to Scart is £20 per year with a possible one off joining fee (TBC).

Some of the current ATV members are also on the committee of the HDARC whilst others are also club members. It is the intention to install ATV equipment at the HDARC caravan and shed, based within Fort Widley, to link to the ATV repeater at HMS Collingwood, this location, being high up, will hopefully enable amateurs who live north of the city to gain easy access into the repeater via a dish mounted at the club site at the Fort. The equipment has still to be installed and further tests carried out but, like all hobbies, this is an on-going project.

If you are interested in joining the group or want further information please contact Frank Cotton (GØLFI) g0lfi1@ntlworld.com



A very warm welcome to our new members and up-dates

New Members

Peter Allcock	G1EHB	4983
Alan Schiffman	G4GQL	4984
Llyr John Mercer	SWL	4985
Ed Field	M6XTT	4986
Pete Morris	G1INF	4987
Emilio Focosi	I5EFO	4988
John Rowlands	MW1CFN	4989
Chris Wilkinson	M6FUW	4990

Re-joiners

Changes

John Llyr Mercer was a SWL	M6GNI	4985
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Resigned

John Patrick	GØRJD	3932
Bruno Bajoni	HB9BHS	3786

Silent Keys

Ed Dennett (Former member)	GØEDM	1353
Bob Caines	G3ORC	4796
Anna Last	GØDID	2917
Bill Jennings	GØIEC	3526
WI Vernon-Jones (Former member)	GØVFE	4655
Terry Barclay (Former member)	GØTBD	4677
Roy Threadingham	G3ADR	3833
John Pegler (Founding member)	G3ENI	0023
See: http://tinyurl.com/o4ndrmw		
Diana Prothero	GØRNO	3926
Don Jones	G4LIH	2014
Geoff Pritchard	G4ZGP	3652
Mike Smith	G4PRG	1420



HMS BELFAST Part III “Captain Corky”

Sometime in 1999, I was approached by a representative of the Imperial War Museum (IWM) asking if I would be prepared to host and chaperone some birthday parties with a difference. I would be required to dress in the uniform of a senior officer, and given the title of Captain Corky. The mode of dress was of a Captain complete with gold braid; both coat and hat were genuine apparel which had been given to the IWM. I was delighted to accept but, I baulked at wearing the hat of that exalted personage, although I did not mention it. I overcame this dilemma by tucking the hat under my arm.

I greeted the children on the Quarter Deck, with a short chat about their hallowed environs, then nominated the birthday child as my First Lieutenant explaining their important position. The rest of the guests were the crew.

I then escorted the children on a limited tour of the ship with a crocodile of youngsters in tow. I should mention that at least one parent or another adult was required in the line-up.



It was good fun explaining the various compartments and perhaps occasionally I may have strayed to some hyperbole, but if I did, the children usually caught the humour. When we arrived at the cell blocks I think that most had difficulty accepting the possible punishment that could be extended to a miscreant. In particular the wooden board and the limited diet the length of incarceration determined by the Captain. I also explained that this part of the ship; namely the bow, would be extremely uncomfortable during rough weather.

The children thoroughly enjoyed scrambling through the hatchways, but I cannot vouch for the adults in tow. The children were given

access to various modes of apparel nautical for the use of, even a genuine old style diving suit complete with helmet.

My final contribution how to clamber in and out of a hammock; yes, I was still capable. It was a riot of fun for the children and another reason for the attendant parent or adult. I should mention that if I attempted it now, I would need the assistance of a paramedic.

Governed by a time table, I led the youngsters to the section where their birthday party was held with goodies laid out on a mess table and the parents now in charge. I did not join the festivities, as my duty ended there.

I completed about six of these parties, but I believe they were continued for a time after by a retired bona fide Lieutenant Commander.

Bill/GØIEC/3526/LG345

Obituary

Sadly Bill passed over the bar prior to the last Newsletter going to press. Bill's daughter Amanda has forwarded an edited eulogy given at Bill's funeral service for inclusion in the Newsletter.



Bill was the third son in a family of three boys and two girls brought up in the East End of London when times were really hard. His mum was the main breadwinner and so although Bill was coached by a teacher for grammar school, his family needed the wages he would earn and he left school at fourteen.

Even at this stage he had a full life; he was junior boxing champion and a member of the ATC and, if you can believe it, was once an angelic blond choirboy, though he admitted the tea and buns they had after church services were a major draw!

It was in his ATC days that Bill learned Morse code and discovered he had real flair and talent coming first in a major area test of who could read and report back first on a given message. He found it so easy he

almost didn't come forward to claim the prize. His skill led to him being fast tracked as a telegraphist when he joined the navy which was as soon as he could.

Despite the difficulties of war service (where he was known as “Ginger” or “Blondie” for his distinctive hair colour), Bill's navy days were hugely important in forming his character and he was able to travel all over the Mediterranean, India, the USA and Ireland which he explored as much as he could during shore leave. Before the War Bill worked at Pathé news where he met the love of his life, Joy. He recalled having to fend off many suitors to secure her!

After the war, now married to Joy, he worked at the signal station which became Heathrow, (where he also spent many hours birdwatching and studying the flora and fauna); and then worked at Canine Defence (now the Dogs Trust) until he decided to pursue his love for the good life outdoors on a farm in Sussex. The day he arrived he found himself milking cows by hand and mucking out pigs. He loved it.

However, he and Joy realised that the depths of Sussex might not be best for bringing up their new family and so in 1956 they moved to Caterham and Bill spent the rest of his working life commuting to London and working in the import and export shipping business and then for P&O (which had the benefit of cruises with staff discounts so he and Joy could enjoy life on the ocean wave once more.)

When he retired Bill sat the radio amateur exam and obtained the call sign GØIEC. He made contact with people all over the world from Russia to Caterham! His Morse style was well known as fast accurate and stylish and he prided himself for many years on using an old fashioned, heavy hand-operated key, none of your computerised efforts!

For twenty-three years until 2013, Bill was “Wednesday Bill” operating aboard HMS Belfast under the call sign GB2RN. He was proud to represent the ship as an ambassador for the many visitors and overseas contacts. He would be so honoured that Belfast's ensign is flying at half-mast this afternoon as a mark of respect.

During Bill's time on Belfast he was recruited to operate the key and the Aldiss lamp for a TV documentary about the sinking of the German battleship "Sharnhorst" and his famous fast hand appears on film as well as in a BBC radio play.

While at HMS Belfast, Bill was also called on to become Captain Corky for kids parties and barman at the AGM bash...his Belfast time was very important to him and latterly he very much regretted being unable to travel up to London each week due to his decreasing mobility.

Over the years the years, Bill adopted technological change with enthusiasm and determination. He built a radio from scratch and more recently was in regular text, email and Facebook communication with all his family.

Bill was a man of integrity who faced his final illness with great courage and dignity. He will be terribly missed but, because of his legacy, never forgotten.



Commander Aubrey John Russell Pegler RN OBE 1920 - 2015

Members will be sad to learn that Commander AJR Pegler RN OBE (G3ENI RNARS 23) crossed the bar to become a silent key on 12th September 2015 at the age of 95.

He joined the Navy as a cadet at the age of seventeen. During the war he was on the Arctic convoys and was decorated three times by the Russian government. During his early years he built his first radio at the age of eleven.



It was whilst he was at Lee on Solent in 1960 that John thought it would be a good idea to have a Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society. He helped to set it up with like-minded people such as Lt John Riggs RN G3AWO, Mike

Matthews G3JFF and George Tagg G8IX. At the meeting at HMS Mercury twenty-six members attended and the Society was born. John was chairman of the RNARS from 1962 – 1968.

In 1957 the Cold War was on and the Sputnik satellite was launched by the Russians. John was one of the first people to have heard the signals pulsing on his receiver.

From 1961 – 1963 John worked on the medium range anti-submarine torpedo carrying helicopter for operations, landing on the sterns of the new Leander class frigates. In fact he has a patent on a landing gripping arrangement on the platforms. It was during this procedure that the wheels of his mini car were used in the research. The final helicopter version was the Wasp.

At the end of four years in the Admiralty he worked on the re-development of accommodation, training facilities and aircraft workshops. Following this he received his well-deserved OBE on 1st January 1970.

After retirement John became a retired officer for the re-development of Portsmouth, Devonport, Chatham and Portland Naval bases for a new class of frigates, destroyers, submarines, aircraft carriers and mine sweepers. He also dealt with the new test facility for the next generation of nuclear engines known as PWRS at Dounreay in Scotland.

On the air John was always good company, encouraging and full of technical advice to those who would ask for it. He was a fount of information about any subject that was being talked about. He was always eager to help anyone and he designed and helped to build a speech aid using an oscilloscope which enabled severely deaf children to copy sounds. This was in use for many years in my unit for hearing impaired children. In those days there were no devices like that. He was also helpful in setting up a radio station in my school which was funded by the late King Hussein of Jordan. It was used for many years and the then radio club had lots of members.

Regretfully his beloved wife Jean died in 2009. They had three children, four grandchildren and seven great, grandchildren. He was happily married to Jean for sixty-five years.

He threw himself into the RSGB's 5MHz experiment with much enthusiasm and wrote several articles about aerials and even experimented in the use of trees as aerials. He was interested in the reflectivity of soil types and measured the conductivity of soil under various conditions. His interest in stochastic noise and the way it affected weak signals resulted in finding that the weak signals "surf" the noise level allowing it to be more readable. Without stochastic noise a weak signal was lost or difficult to read.

It was latterly that his involvement with Arctic convoys was rewarded by the Russian government who awarded him the Ushakov Arctic Convoy Medal.

With such an enquiring mind his engineering and scientific approach has been of benefit to many people. We have to thank him for being a founder member of our Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society.

Danny Sharpe G3ZUN RNARS 459

A little history of RAF Morse keys

KEY MORSE TYPE D 10F/7373

The Type D key was the standard ground station key, modified and adapted from the earlier Type B key early in WWII and made in large numbers by several different manufacturers.

The key is an excellent instrument and features a Phosphor Bronze spring to cushion the movement (an early measure to prevent what is now



known as Repetitive Strain Injuries) and to provide a sliding, self-cleaning action to the solid silver keying contacts.

The key featured in RAF communications centres around the world but was rarely seen in use with the cover in place as it tended to 'get in the way'. Most W/T rooms had a draw full of covers, most of which were broken due to the fragile nature of the 'Bakelite' from which they were made.

The one time that operation with the cover on was – extremely – advisable was when being used on 80V+ - 80V- keying lines as a standby for Teleprinter operation, a case of 'Once Bitten Twice shy'. This key was presented to the 1 Radio School Museum by a member of the RAF Amateur Radio Society, October 2011,

NS No. 5805-99-580-8558 - NATO Key

The NATO Key is the Morse Key which took over from the Key Morse type 'D' to a great extent. It seems to be the first, and was perhaps the only, NATO serial Morse key in general use in RAF ground installations. It was widely known as the 'NATO' key and sometimes as the 'Navy' key because of its 'paint job'.

Once again the key is an excellent item of equipment and has some unique features for a service key. There is no provision for screwing this key to the operating bench but, as it weighs in at 1756 grams it is not going to 'walk' about the



desk when being used. There is provision, external to the protective case, to vary the gap between the operating contacts; thus the operator can easily adjust the key to his individual requirements. There are no rotating surfaces between the base of the key and the operating arm as is the norm. Instead the arm is mounted on a flexible steel leaf spring, a system 'lifted' from a pre-existing Swedish design.

Other truly unique features are is an On/Off switch and, under the base a built in system of capacitors designed to eliminate 'key clicks'. The NATO key is much sought after by Amateur Radio operators, to the extent that a good clean specimen can fetch nearly £200 (January 2011).

This key was presented to the museum of 1 Radio School RAF Cosford Museum by a member of the RAF Amateur Radio Society, October 2011.

Roy Walker

Rally Reports

Sussex Electronics & Radio Fair Eastbourne

The hall I was to set up in was absolutely enormous. Thanks to Doug G0MIU (RNARS Commodities) and Joe G3ZDF (RNARS Secretary) I had plenty of regalia on offer passed to me at Kempton a few weeks ago.

Nine members attended the rally, Brian G4CJY, Gavin G6DGK, Trevor G3ZYY, Paul KF4FOR (ex-member visiting the UK) Chris M0KTT, Paul M0LRE and Dave G8PUO. I took one renewal from Fleming G4MJC.

A very good day was had and I have details for next year when I / we should be going back. It's a two day effort next year and I will be there for the Saturday only, volunteer for Sunday please?

Camping and caravanning (Friday through to Sunday) will be available with catering complete with the use of showers. Free parking as well as disabled facilities and pets are allowed in the spacious relaxing venue.

Phil G1LKJ RNARS 2954

Newbury Radio Rally

There had been a torrential rain downpour the previous evening, so I was expecting muddy conditions on site, but apart from loads of dust on the approach road it was fine.

Twelve people signed in during the day; Nobby G4JVJ, Dave G3VXM, Brian G4CJY, Christine M6UBI, Paul M0IRE, Richard G3ZGC, Dave

G8PUO, Simon G0IEY, Frank G0LFI, Julian G0IVY and I found Fred Greenwood whose call sign I can never remember in the crowd.

While there, I met up with a 2E0DJU who left the Navy in 2013, I shall be following him up for possible membership. He is a member of the Andover club that George Sweet used to belong to. I gave him some publicity in the shape of a magazine and a copy of the history of the RNARS by Wally G4DIU. Furthest travelled was Dave G8PUO and Paul MOLRE from Eastbourne.

Phil G1LKJ RNARS 2954

Luton

The Sun shone all day, but not too hot, in fact quite pleasant. I ran this stall with Bedford & District Amateur Radio Club (BADARC) RNARS 4961 and RAFARS 4828. The two Ensigns were flown above the stand.

There were about two hundred stalls, with amateurs selling to amateurs, with no traders on the scene; it was all a huge boot sale.

We put a station on, and worked the Northern net, making contact with John GM4VUG.

The numbers of buyers seemed a bit down on last year but still well attended seventeen signed in, of which four, were RAFARS members. A tot was available to all that were allowed to imbibe ! The show was over by 14:00, so we packed up and made our way home. Don't miss this very large Boot Sale next year, as its too good to miss!

Glenn GØGBI 3481

HMS Collingwood Open Day

It was a great relief to wake up on the morning of the 6th June with the sun shining and knowing that all that hard work and planning would not be ruined through bad weather.

All problems experienced last year were discussed in full and every effort to ensure a trouble free day was put in place. Stan Mathews, no relation to Mike Mathews G3JFF, our new Ex Officio certainly came up trumps by ironing out the problems that had caused serious concerns last year with the committee responsible this event. We are once again fortunate to have a senior warrant officer who spares no effort in ensuring our needs are met.

This is the one day where we have the opportunity to impress the establishment's hierarchy of our value to the service and ensure that the tenure of the HQ Shack is secure.

Unfortunately although an appeal was made for local members through the News Letter, Web and other modes to assist on this important day for the society, none were forthcoming, it was left to that dedicated few that had spent most of the year preparing the necessary equipment required, to bear the full brunt of operating and demonstrating the wonderful world of television and radio to the general public. To say we were light on the ground was no exaggeration as those who signed in were: Joe,G3ZDF, Nigel,M0NAF, Simon,G0IEY, Julia,G0IUY, Peter,G3PFB, Russ,G4SAQ, Frank,G0LFI, Christine, M6UBI and Doug,G4BEQ.

Nigel, Peter, Simon, Julia, Christine, Frank and Russ were fully occupied providing full TV coverage of all events throughout the day which required three camera crews and a control consul team who were monitoring and editing incoming filmed events prior to transmission. This left Joe and Doug to operate the VHF and HF bands, man the phone, echo link and Skype, as well as entertaining visitors who came into the shack.

The main attraction of the day was the Field Gun Competition which commences at 0930 and apart from a break at 1200-1245 continues to 1445 when the final takes place. For those who are unaware of the history of the field gun completion it is linked to the Boer War and the 119 day siege of Ladysmith. It was the arrival of the Naval Brigade consisting of 280 matelots complete with four specially adapted 12 pounders and two 4.7 inch guns that tipped the balance. Commander Scott who was the officer responsible for improvising the special carriages and mountings during this conflict was instrumental in conceiving the idea of a Field Gun Competition simulating the conditions undertaken to bring the guns into action at Ladysmith as early as 1900. The competition is hard fought and is followed with great interest by many ex service personnel and others worldwide thanks to the great efforts of our ATV team.

Although the field gun is the main attraction during open day many other activities take place and include the Royal Navy Parachute

Team, The Royal Marine Band, Tiger's Children's Motorcycle Team, Portsmouth Military Wives Choir, Deed of Arms Medieval Show, Solent Dog Display Team, Falconry Display, Big Noise Samba Band as well as many static displays too numerous to list. Without doubt a very good day out especially on a nice sunny day, providing you are a visitor of course and not in the shack trying to do the work of three people.

Flight Refuelling

Fairly quiet start to the rally and was soon set up and everything kicked off at 10:00. Had thirteen members sign in, Richard G3ZGC, George G4NFT, Stan M3MUB, Jerry M0VIT, Dan M0CVR, Chris M0TCH, Martin M1MRB, Jack G4PIJ, Doug G0LDJ, Trevor G3ZYY, Dave G1OCN and Graham G4NMD.

Phil G1LKJ RNARS 2954

West Kent - Tunbridge Wells

Drove out to Tunbridge Wells for the local rally; 114 mile round trip.

Four members signed in, no commodities sold or new members signed up sadly. Although I had one enquiry from an ex-navy man, not a radio amateur and I gave him a copy of our newsletter and a brief history of the RNARS by Wally G4DIU.

Phil G1LKJ RNARS 2954

Milton Keynes

A very damp day, no actual rain, just horrible. We arrived at about 08:30 and set up the table. BADARC one end and RNARS the other, as we run these stalls together.

The damp weather didn't deter the sellers or the buyers at all, money was changing hands at lightning speed. There were about forty stalls altogether. Although this is a small rally compared to the past, it still gets a lot of support. Ten members signed in, some being members of BADARC. Rum was available to those that could imbibe, but most are on medication, so could not. Two people were interested in, possibly joining, so we informed them of the web site. 13:00 saw most people leaving, so we packed everything away and departed.

Glenn 3481/BADARC 4961

Huntingdon

This rally is run at St Neots Community College, and is quite spacious for the event. Good job it is, as it poured with rain all day, and all the sellers had to use the classrooms. I again run this stall with BADARC. About forty traders set up and we were in the main hall. The weather didn't put off the buyers, being quite crowded for a time. The car park was running with the rain water, so people didn't stay too long and only five members signed in. Due to the weather most people went by 12:30, so we left at 13:00

Glenn 3481/BADARC 4961

Winglets Over The Sea

RNARS member, CPO (SCC) Carl Mason (GWØVSW) recently qualified as a senior flying instructor with the Sea Cadets. This is a total career change for Carl having spent most of his RN career as a RS in submarines.

Carl spent an enjoyable break from his day job as a BBC camera operator during the summer to assist in running flying courses for sea cadets with 727 Training Squadron at RNAS Yeovilton in a Grob 109B. The young cadets under Carl's instruction gained experience of flying and air navigation. One of Carl's pupils, Leading Cadet Michael Cooper (left in picture above), passed out



as top student and has been invited back to start training as a ground instructor.

Blessed with fine weather during their training, most of the cadets enjoyed several sorties over the Solent to the Isle of Wight as well as around the Portsmouth area. The head of SCC Training; Dan Jardine found time to pay a visit and was taken up for a short flight.

In keeping with his aeronautical interests, Carl has promised a book review of a long lost and very rare edition of a W E John's book in the Biggles series; "Biggles Flies Undone".

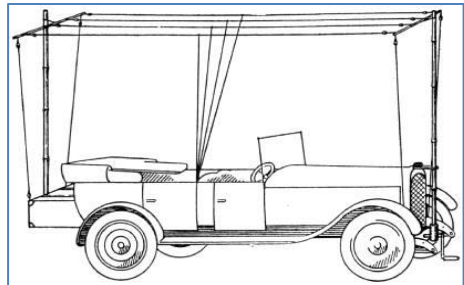
Caption Competition

The winning entry for the caption competition came from Commander Ian Anderson-Mochrie; "Navigating office report to the bridge immediately".

Ian served on, HMS Totem and recognises the submarine in the picture as HMS Tireless.



Let's see what you can come up with for this picture. Entries by post or e-mail as per my contact details in the editorial.



View from the masthead

In 1949 when doing my stint as a national service REM1 on board the weapon class destroyer HMS Crossbow, one of the regular tasks was to check the IFF (identification friend or foe) antennas mounted high on the fore mast.

The first time I undertook this task Crossbow was in dry dock which meant it was a very long drop down to the bottom of the dock, I was so busy clinging on that not much work was achieved. There were just three of us on board to look after all the radio and radar equipment, one being the PO RE (Radio Electrician) and the other REM was a regular the mast climb usually became my task. Not that I minded as it got me out of the way of any odd jobs authority might find for me.

On one sunny day while I was sunbathing by the masthead I was astonished to see masses of people crowding into the dockyard and approaching the "bull nose" which is the lock entry into Chatham dockyard from the river Medway. Away in the distance down river I could make out the outline of a County class cruiser which eventually entered the lock and passed into the basin. A great cheer went up from the assembled crowd as the somewhat battered ship came to rest alongside. It was HMS London home from the Far East and the historical Yangtse incident.

A very touching sight as she still bore the scars from the Chinese gunfire but was still very much seaworthy and a proud ship. What a sight I had a privileged to view from on high.

John Lambert G3FNZ 4829

QRT – Closing down

I have to wonder where the summer went? You may have seen the Open Golf Championship on television from St Andrews this year and are well aware of the dreadful weather that caused the final round to conclude on the Monday. Sadly this played havoc with my intended sailing plans. It would also seem that the winds were blowing in the wrong direction for most of the nets, or at least the ones I tried to join in, particularly on 7 MHz.

Anyway, the news here is that after careful consideration by the committee, the Newsletter will be published four times per year; yes you read correctly, four times a year. With so many of you electing to receive the Newsletter by e-mail, it has made it possible to do this. At present I have a couple of articles in storage for the next edition, but going to four editions per year will mean I need **YOUR** support. Articles of all sizes will be considered. In fact short articles often fill a

gap and if supplied with a picture, which I can re-size to suit, it makes for a tidier layout. Please help with articles short or long and pictures of you in your shack for the “Me and my shack” spot.

Can I also repeat, I cannot, nor will not use copy from an already published source without the permission of the copyright holder. Additionally I will not use text obtained from web sites; however, I will abbreviate and list the web site address.

Please; I repeat **PLEASE** when sending **e-mails** to me relating to the Newsletter, only use the following address: **rnars@colinsmagic.com** The other important thing is to **ONLY** put **RNARS** in the subject. I have a filter which recognises characters in the subject and untimely protects my computer and the addresses of members in my RNARS e-mail list from being stolen or hacked. Therefore any mails with anything other than RNARS or additions to RNARS are deleted automatically and I don't see them.

If you want to receive your newsletter by e-mail and save yourself a few pounds, use the same address as above, but this time only put **Newsletter Subscription** in the subject. In the body of your mail all I need is your name, RNARS number, call-sign and postal address; please do not enter into correspondence when subscribing.

Well that's enough from me; I hope you all have a pleasant Christmas and good New Year. I'm off to see my doctor now, I swallowed some of the coins in the Christmas pudding last year and I don't think they've past through yet, last time I saw the doctor about it he couldn't see any change in me.

Colin

Contacting me:	Mobile:	07871 959654
	Home:	01592 774085
Out with the UK:	Home:	00441592 774085
Skype:	colintop	
Postal:	26 Crathes Close, Glenrothes, KY7 4SS, UK	



RSGB 2016 AGM

The RSGB is holding the 2016 AGM in Weegieland (Glasgow) on the 23rd April.

With a very busy schedule, I'm already planning my diary for 2016. If there are any RNARS members intending to attend, perhaps we can meet up? Please get in touch via my contact details in the editorial above.

Colin

Do you need a **membership application** form for a friend? You can print one off direct from the RNARS web site:
<http://tinyurl.com/3cke7yk>

Late News



Sadly another passing to report; our patron, Admiral Sir Peter Abbott has passed on. An obituary was published in the Times and can be found using this link: <http://tinyurl.com/nsnbsvp>

AGM Mug Shots

Full AGM report in the Spring 2016 edition



Julia & Paul



Joe & Dave



Doug & Hans



Martin, Andrew & Maurine



Ray, David & Peter



Maren, Ray & Paul

RAFARS & Royal Signals ARS Nets

RAFARS Nets	Time	Freq	Control / Notes
Daily	1100 A	3.71	G2AFV G3HWQ
	1830 A	3.71	GI4SAM MØRGI
Monday	1900 A	3.7	G3PSG GØBIA
Tuesday	0730 A	14.27	
	1400 A	7.015	
	1900 A	3.567	G4IYC
Wednesday	1500 Z	14.29	
	1530 Z	21.29	
Thursday	1830 Z	14.17	ZC4RAF
Friday	0730 A	14.055	CW Net
Sunday	0900 Z	5.403	
First Monday of the month	1000 A	3.71	

RSARS Nets	Time	Freq	Control / Notes
Monday - Friday	1000 A	7.17	GW3KJW / M3VRB
Monday	1830 A	3.585	RTTY GM3KHH
Tuesday	1400 S	7.17	SSB MØOIC
	1600 Z	14.18	G4BXQ
Wednesday	0600 Z	14.143	Various
	1030 Z	3.615	
	1830 A	3.565	CW GM3KHH
	2030 A	1.946	2EØBDS
Thursday	1400 A	7.17	GØRGB
	1800 A	3.743	G6NHY
Friday	1830 A	3.583	PSK31 GM3KHH
	1830 A	3.565	High speed CW
	2000 Z	14.055	CW
Saturday	0600 Z	14.143	SSB
Sunday	1000 A	3.565	Slow speed CW G3JRY
	1100 A	7.17	GW4XKE
	1100 A	3.745	GM4FOZ

Joint Service Net

Day	Time Local	Frequ	Control
Sunday	09:00	5.4035	G3RAF
Tuesday	19:00	5.4035	G3RAF

RNARS Nets

All frequencies +/- QRM. DX nets are GMT; UK nets are GMT or BST as appropriate. The list is compiled by Mick Puttick G3LIK
mick_g3lik@ntlworld.com – 02392255880.

UK Nets	Time Local	Frequ	Net	Control
Daily	2359-0400	145.727	Midnight Nutters	Vacant
Sun	0800	3.667	News 0830	G3LIK
	1000	7.065	Northern Net	GM4VUG
	1100	145.4	Cornish Net	GØGRY
	1100	7.02	CW Net	G4TNI
Mon-Sat	1030	7.065 / 3.743	Bubbly Rats	GØGBI/GWØSFI GØOKA/MØZAE
Mon	1400	3.575/7.02	QRS CW	GØVCV
	1900	7.088 / 3.743	North West-News 2000	GØGBI
Tue	1900	7.028 / 3.528	CW Net	G3RFH
Wed	1400	3.74 / 7.088	White Rose	G4KGT
	1930	3.743	SSB News 2000	GØOAK
	2000	145.4	Stand Easy	Vacant
Thur	1900	3.542	Scottish CW	Vacant
	2000 GMT	1.835	Top Band CW	GØCHV/G4KJD
Fri	1600	10.118	CW	SM4AHM
Sat	0800	3.74/7.088	GØDLH Memorial Net	GØVIX
DX	Time GMT	Frequ	Net	Control
Daily	0800	14.303	Maritime Mobile	Vacant
	1800	14.303	Maritime Mobile	Vacant
Sun	0800	7.015/30555	MARAC CW	PA3EBA/PI4MRC
	1430	21.41/28.94	RNARS DX	WA1HMW
	1900	14.33	N American	WA1HMW
Mon	0930	3.615	VK SSB	VK1RAN/VK2RAN
Wed	0118-0618	7.02	VK CW	VK4RAN
	0148-0648	10.118	VK CW	VK4RAN
	0800	3.62	ZL SSB	ZL1BSA
	0930	7.02	VK SSB	VK5RAN
	0945	7.09	VK SSB	VK1RAN/VK2RAN
Thur	1430	21.41	RNARS DX	WA1HMW
Sat	0400	7.09	VK SSB	VK2CCV
	1330	7.02	VK CW	VK2CCV
	1400	7.09	VK SSB	VK2CCV
	1430	21.41	RNARS DX	WA1HMW

RNARS activity frequencies									
FM	145.4								
CW	1.824	3.52	7.02	10.118	14.052	18.087	21.052	24.897	28.052
SSB	1.965	3.66	3.74	7.088	14.294	14.335	18.15	21.36	28.94

Web Watch

Have you found an interesting web site, pass it on and I'll share it in the Newsletter. If you receive your Newsletter by e-mail, you should be able to click directly on the URL's below to open the web site.

<p>If you want to know what is happening on the bands then one of the DX-Cluster sites will show you who is on which band and who they are working. You can usually select which band(s) you want to look at.</p>	<p>http://www.dxcluster.co.uk http://tinyurl.com/o4g3954 http://www.dxsummit.fi/#/</p>
<p>If you would like to see the information displayed on a map then DX Maps is a useful site. You can see the information in tabular form simply by clicking the 'List' tab. Sometimes the list/map is dominated by WSPR QSOs and to hide them tick the box 'Only DX-Cluster'.</p>	<p>http://tinyurl.com/p4bqnm</p>
<p>If you are interested in digital modes and only want to see that type of QSO then this is the site for you. The (free) WSJT-X program from K1JT can automatically send details of when you are transmitting and who you are receiving.</p>	<p>http://tinyurl.com/nprubuf</p>
<p>Beacons often provide a useful guide to current propagation conditions. There are beacons on every band, more on some bands than others. The band plans for every band have provision for beacons. One of the most comprehensive lists of HF beacons is managed by Professor Martin Harrison G3USF in Keele University. The UK Microwave site hosts lists of VHF/UHF and higher beacons.</p>	<p>http://tinyurl.com/yao3 http://tinyurl.com/nzy5ug4</p>
<p>If you have ever wondered whether or how your signals are being received in another country then the Reverse Beacon Network (RBN) may just be the answer. As their site says they are "a network of stations listening to the bands and reporting what stations they hear, when and how well."</p>	<p>http://www.reversebeacon.net/</p>

RNARS Commodities

Item	Price
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Polo shirt embroidered with new RNARS logo, your name and callsign. Colour: Navy only Sizes: S to XXXL	£16-00 P&P £3-00
Sweatshirt embroidered with the new RNARS logo, your name and callsign. Colour: Navy only Sizes: S to XXXL	£16.00 P&P £3-00
Fleece jacket embroidered with new RNARS logo, your name and callsign Colour: Navy only Sizes: S to XXXL	£21-00 P&P £3-00
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Lapel badge with new RNARS logo	£2-00 P&P £1-00
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Sizes: S-36/38 M -38/40 L-40/42 XL-42/44
 2XL-44/46 3XL-46/48 4XL-48/50

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Enclose cheque payable to: Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society						

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Please allow fourteen days for delivery and while these prices are correct when going to press, prices do vary and are subject to change.