

THE SPALDING RADIO NEWS

No. 1

Spring, 1972.

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Contents -

Page 2 ...	Editorial.	... G400
Page 3 ...	History of the Spalding & District Amateur Radio Society.	... G3VPR
Page 4 ...	Dates for your diary & Hints and Kinks.	
Page 5 ...	Net Information	
Page 6 ...	What's it all about? No. 1 - WAB/HAB.	
Page 7 ...	Periodical Gleanings.	
Page 8 ...	Contest Calendar & Club components, etc., available to members.	

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Editorial.

To quote a modern idiom - 'it's all happening'. This year should be an eventful one for our Club with plenty happening to keep enthusiasm on the ball. With this, our first issue, we enclose details of the "Tulipland Award" and the Bi-annual County Contest. The former will put us on the international map and the latter will help to foster enthusiasm among our members, both licensed and SWLs. More details about these last two items are to be found in the enclosed leaflets. Our most ambitious venture, of course, will be the Mobile Rally to be held at Surfleet, same site as before, on May 7th and having set a high standard with the previous rallies we now have a good reputation to honour. The only variable we cannot control is the weather, we can but hope that we are favoured with as much sunshine as before. Final arrangements will be made during the Club meeting on February 25th and will be available from our Hon. Sec. Roy, G3VPR, QTHR.

This quarterly newsletter is anew venture which we hope will be a success - true to the amateur spirit we must be optimistic. To be a success it must be a team effort and it is hoped that contributions for the next issue (that optimism again) will be forthcoming. The object is to keep all our members fully in the picture of local happenings, trends, new ideas, etc., but most important of all, to be of some assistance to any member needing a little guidance from time to time. Our hobby has many facets and we are happy doing our own 'thing' . To be anti-VHF, anti-SSB, anti-CW or anti-whatever is NOT repeat NOT in keeping with the amateur spirit and will have no place in this newsletter. There is more than enough intolerance in the world today so let's keep it out of our hobby.

We are fishing for ideas fellows - any article, long or short, serious or humorous, circuits or cartoons; in short, anything of interest within the usual bounds of legality, decency, etc., we do not have atame lawyer on the staff yet! Staff! hi hi, even the Editor is unskilled in this field - got the job because he can write!! Anyway, you are getting it free so hope it meets with your approval.

.....G400

History of the Spalding & District Amateur Radio Society

The Society was formed in May, 1965 at an inaugural meeting held at G400's QTH, Gosberton Rise Gate, thereafter meetings were held weekly at Spalding Grammar School where Morse practice and constructional projects took place to help several SWLs to obtain their ticket. The first Spalding Junk Sale took place on 12th November, 1965 at the "White Lion Hotel", another followed three months later in February 1966. The income from these events enabled the Club to purchase a CR100 Receiver.

Towards the winter of 1966 attendance at weekly meetings gradually diminished, and with the lack of support and the fact that the room at the school would no longer be available to the Club it was decided to cancel further regular meetings.

During 1967 some of the more active members moved away from the area or were otherwise engaged so it was not until December of that year that a meeting was called to discuss the Club's future. It was decided to try meetings on a monthly basis at the "White Lion Hotel" in Spalding, these were fairly successful for a few months - a Junk Sale in February, 1968 particularly so - but during the summer months interest again waned and it was considered not worth the cost of hiring a room for the limited attendance, therefore further meetings were postponed.

In late April 1969, G3VPR and G3XBS decided to try and revive interest in this area by arranging at very short notice a Mobile Picnic and 'get-together' for Tuliptime. This first such event took place at Surfleet on Sunday, 11th May, 1969 and approximately 40 amateurs attended, mainly locals but some did travel from Leicester and Nottingham. The weather was fine and most expressed approval of the event so plans were made for a more ambitious event for 1970. In the spring of this year 3 or 4 keen SWLs joined the Club and took an active interest in the final arrangements for the Mobile Rally giving much encouragement to G3VPR, G3XBS and G400. At this Rally some members' XYLs joined in with assistance on the refreshment stand. On the morning of the Rally the sun shone brightly and cars began to roll in, many from over 100 miles distance. The estimated attendance was approximately 150 amateurs and families and proved that the

Rally would obviously become a popular attraction if held each year at Tuliptime. This event proved well worthwhile and was instrumental in putting the Spalding and District Amateur Radio Society back on it's feet and from this time onwards regular monthly meetings have been held

As well as the annual Tuliptime Mobile Rally , the Club holds a Christmas Social and Junk Sale at the "Ship Albion" in Spalding every December and have also taken part in VHF Field Day, MCC and other contests during the past two years. Many more events are in the planning stage and the Club looks forward to a more stable and brighter future.

.....G3VPR

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Dates for Your Diary.

S. & D. A. R. S. Meetings

Friday 17th March (Subject to alteration
Friday 21st April so check on Club Net)
Friday 19th May

Peterborough Junk Sale & Social at "Rose & Crown" in Bridge Street, Peterborough on Friday 18th February.
Spilsby Junk Sale & Social on April 14th at usual venue.
Next R.A.E. on 9th May, 1972 and applications should be in by the end of the month.

Mobile Rally Calendar.

April 16th - Drayton Manor.
May 7th - Tuliptime Rally at Surfleet.
August 6th - Woburn Abbey.

March 1st to 31st is the month for county chasing, full details are to be found on separate sheet.

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Hinks & Kinks. We welcome ideas for the department. For a valved 2m or 4m Converter for operation from a 12v LT source how about using a FC88 and PCF802 with the heaters wired in series?

A simple RF Sniffer which operates regardless of frequency can be made from an C/500uA, RFC and diode. Wire

The RFC (2.5mH type) and diode in series across the terminals of the meter and from the junction of the two components a short length of stiff wire serves as an aerial pick-up rod. If meter reads backwards change the polarity of the diode. For the diode use 1N34, OA80, etc.

Stuck for multi-way plug and socket and fed up with loose wires in a terminal block? Obtain another like terminal block and connect the leads to one side, into the other side of the block fit short lengths of 16 swg copper wire about ½" long, these form the 'pins' of the male plug. The plug is then offered up the original terminal block which then becomes the female socket. This simplifies connections and obviates error when connecting leads are required to be removed from a chassis.

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Net Information.

It may not be common knowledge but there several nets on the bands which members may be interested to know, so a list is given below and this will be added to as and when other net information comes to hand.

Spalding Club Nets:

Sundays approximately 1100Z and 1400Z on 1980 kHz.

Saturdays during the forenoon on 1980 kHz.

Wednesdays at 2000Z on 1980 kHz.

Thursdays at 2100Z on 145.8 MHz.

Worked All Britain Net (WAB/HAB)

Wednesdays on either 3760 or 1866 kHz at 1900Z.

Fridays at 2200Z on 3760 kHz (European Net)

Saturdays at 1400Z on 21338 kHz (International Net)

Saturdays at 1900Z on 3560 kHz CW only.

Sundays at 1500Z on 3760 kHz (or 7060).

Sundays at 1800Z on 3760 kHz (Natternet).

International Short Wave League (ISWL) Nets.

Fridays at 2200Z on 3645 kHz (or nearest)

Sundays at 1100Z on 21350 kHz.

Sundays at 1400Z on 14240 kHz.

Ex-G Radio Club

Sundays at 1900Z on 14347 kHz.

Net Information (continued)

The British Commonwealth Net.

Daily at 1530Z on 14170 kHz.

Singapore Net.

Daily at 1600Z on 14300 kHz and at 1630Z on 21360 kHz.

Amateur Radio Mobile Society Net.

Sundays and Saturdays at 1330Z on 21280 on 21380 kHz.

R.A.I.B.C Nets.

Tuesdays at 1100Z on 3650 - 3700 kHz.

Wednesdays at 1400Z on same frequency.

Cheshire Homes Net on Thursdays at 1400Z 3675 kHz.

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What's it all about ? No 1.

This is the first of a series explaining the various organisations, etc., connected with our hobby,
Worked All Britain/Heard All Britain.

This is entirely independent from all other radio organisations, except for it's parent body and sponsor the Cannock Chase Amateur Radio Society. All profits go to RAIBC. Further details and books, etc., are available from G3ABG, QTHR. A specimen book can be viewed at G400.

Each 'WAB/HAB' area is based on the National Grid Reference system of the Ordnance Survey. The map of the British Isles is divided into large squares, 100km by 100km and two letters (e.g. TF) indicate the large square region. Each large square contains 100 smaller squares 10km by 10km and these are the 'WAB/HAB' areas. The two figures (e.g. TF22) indicate the position of a place within the large square.

Net information is given in the preceding article and if you wish to join the net call the Net Controller when he asks for 'check-ins'.

To find your particular area within the large square (TF) check on an Ordnance Survey map for your position and the first figure, known as an Easting and it gives the position on the vertical scale. The second figure is known as a Northing and it gives the position on the

What's it all about ? (continued)

horizontal scale. Phone stations give their area as follows. Area TF22 (Spalding town) is given as Tango Foxtrot Two Two - NOT twenty two. One should give the name of the country after the area number.

Various awards are available for 'collecting' areas and all details are given in the WAB/HAB Book available from G3ABG at 65p.

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Periodical Gleanings.

Being brief information about articles of possible interest to members in current and recent issues of the various periodicals covering the amateur radio field.

RSGB Radio Communication for January 1972.

For VHF enthusiasts there is an excellent article on converting the Pye Cambridge to operate on 2m by G8ENN. This is followed by an interesting article about indoor aerials by G3NXM.

Short Wave Magazine for January 1972.

GM3NHQ offers an intriguing design for a three-band CW TX. A far cry from the old days of a string of doublers or wide-band couplers!! Also in this issue are to be found the results of MCC, with our Club in there pitching at no. 63 out of 83. Not exactly in the red carpet bracket but for our first entry not bad, after all, that tall oak was once an acorn! At least we now have a target for the next MCC.

QST (ARRL) for October 1971.

Three articles of interest in this issue, a three-band Transverter for 160, 15 & 10m bands operated from a 80m Transceiver, a CW rig using heterodyning techniques and transistors (ideas similar to the rig described in S.W.Mag) and a random length aerial tuner which can be used on transmitter or receiver.

QST (ARRL) for November 1971.

Two really informative articles in this issue covering the interpretation of SSB linear amplifier peak and average power and the 'low-down' on SWR. For the state of the art boys there is a good article on solid state transmitters

Contest Callendar

March 1st to 31st - Club Country Contest, 160/80m, & VHF.
 March 4/5th - - 144/432mHz Open.
 April 9th - - - 70 mHz 0900 to 1700Z.
 April 15/16th - - ISWL SSB only.
 May 7th - - - Mobile Rally at Surfleet.
 May 21st - - - 144 mHz.
 June 11/12th - - 70mHz.

Any willing helpers for the BHF contests listed
 above please contact Roy, G3VPR or Same, G3XBS.

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Club components available from our Hon. Sec. G3VPR.

EF80, EF91 & ECC81 @ 2p ea. 4CX250B @ 25p ea.
 2S012A Power Transistors @ 8p ea. Toggle switches @ 5p ea.
 1S405 Silicon rectifiers 600 piv @ 3 for 5p.
 Component boards with transistors @ 5 for 5p.
 Min. Fuseholders with 500mA or 1A fuse @ 3p ea.
 Various relays 12 & 24v @ 10p ea. 3-0hm Speakers @ 5p ea.
 Plastic Spkr Grills @ 2p ea. Transistor AF Amps @ 35p (few
 All above at 25% discount to members.

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Advertisements, free to members, should be sent to Roy,
 G3VPR before May 15th, 1972 for the Summer Issue.

Anybody interested in Direction Finding ? We are
 thinking of running a D/F contest some time during the
 summer months if we can rustle up enough support.

News Item.

Roy and Sam have interviewed
 our newest member who has taken
 up residence at Quadring. He is not unknown to us all and
 we are indeed very happy to greet our old friend, Douglas,
 G3KPO. Doug was, of course, hon. Sec. of Peterborough
 Radio & Electronics Society. He has returned to his old
 haunts after a spell on the Isle of Wight. Welcome,
 Douglas, we are very happy to have you with us once again.

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