



History of Radio Clubs in Peterborough

The formation of GPARC and PADARC

Photo-Club Members/Events

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50th Anniversary

PETERBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUBS

THE T. & R. SECTION, Radio Society of Great Britain

THIS SECTION of the Radio Society of Great Britain is a virile and progressive body of amateur radio experimenters bonded together for promotion of knowledge and brotherhood of those interested in the Radio Art. It exists also with the object of the advancement of the Art, the representation of the amateur in legislative matters, and for the disciplined use of the ether in so far as amateur experimenters are concerned.

The Section is governed by a Committee which is elected annually in accordance with rules approved by a Convention held at the Institute of Electrical Engineers, London, in September, 1926, and the Constitution is democratic in character.

The policy of the Section is to accept to its Membership any person or persons who are able to satisfy the Committee that they are interested in Radio Art, or who in their opinion are persons whose Membership is desirable in the interests of the Amateur Experimenter.

The "Bulletin" is published by amateurs for amateurs. The Section is the body recognised by the British Postmaster-General as being representative of the aims and objects of the experimenter. Through its agency great concessions have been obtained in the matter of licences in the past. We have members in every corner of the earth, and we welcome inquiries from prospective Members at all times. A bona fide interest in experimental Radio work is the only essential qualification.

The reason for doing this research is because Peterborough and District Amateur Radio club will be 50 on the 20th July 2025 and it was suggested on our newly started 2@2 net (2020) that it would be interesting to see what other radio clubs were in the area and when did amateur radio first come to Peterborough. At the start of the research, I only had the diary from 1975 starting with the inaugural meeting of Greater Peterborough Radio Club, and over the years I have found/been handed the following information. Some has come from Ofcom, some from RSGB and other bits from a couple of club members and also the RSGB Archive discs from 1925 onwards. The information I have found has led to some questions which at the moment no-one seems to be able to answer like:

1. What is MCC as in 1976 G4EHW (Greater Peterborough Radio Club) came 15th, **this has now been confirmed as the Morse Code Contest**
2. Why did the club always go to Hunstanton for their mobile rally?
3. There is the site at Alwalton, where and is it still available?

1927	There were areas i.e. Scottish areas, Mid Britain area etc. Some of these areas were then split into Districts
1927	Amateurs were called experimenters- numbers rapidly growing
1936	Peterborough Short wave Radio club
1948	G3DQW issued (call book/Ofcom)
1950	club listed in archives (G8VJU)
1953	club listed as participating in NFD (RSGB)
1953-58	club dissolved (G3RED)
1959	club formed by G3KPO with call G3DQW (G3RED)
1963-65	met at Tech College now regional college (M0VTG)
1969	G3DQW c/o Douglas Byrne (call-book)
1976	30 TH birthday at Fitzwilliam Arms Marholm (PRES??)
1975/76	Greater Peterborough Amateur Radio Society formed G4EHW (diary)
1991/95	G3DQW P'boro AM society c/o Les Critchley G3EEL (call book)
1995	G4EHW GPARC c/o Ron Finlayson Stanground College (call book)
2000	G3DQW Peterborough Radio & Electronics c/o V. Edwards (call book)
2011	G3DQW Peterborough Radio & electronics (call book)

PLACES WE HAVE MET

Scout hut Occupation Road
 Scout hut Lincoln Road
 The Old windmill aka New Fletton Tower Mill demolished in 1974
 Peterborough Tech College
 Southfields Junior School
 Stanground College
 Southfields Community Centre
 St Michael and All Angels Church Hall

NAMES WE HAVE HAD

Peterborough Radio and Scientific Society
 Peterborough Radio and Electronics Society
 Peterborough Amateur Radio Society
 Greater Peterborough Amateur Radio Club
 Peterborough and District Amateur Radio Society
 Peterborough and District Amateur Radio Club

CALLSIGNS/NAMES ASSOCIATED/LINKED

G3FDW

G3DQW

G3ARS

G3KPO

G4EHW

M1PRC

G3HXR C GUSCOTT

G0CVZ MIKE

GB0PRF Peterborough Radio Festival 1999

G2NJ W. CARTER

G3YJN R.E. HODGE

G3KEA R. APPLETON

G1ARV

G3EEL L CRITCHLEY

G4NJR F. BRISLEY

G4PNW PETER

G2CBC WALTER

G8NGZ VINCE EDWARDS

G4JDL ROBERT MASKILL

G0MHQ STAN MEADOWS

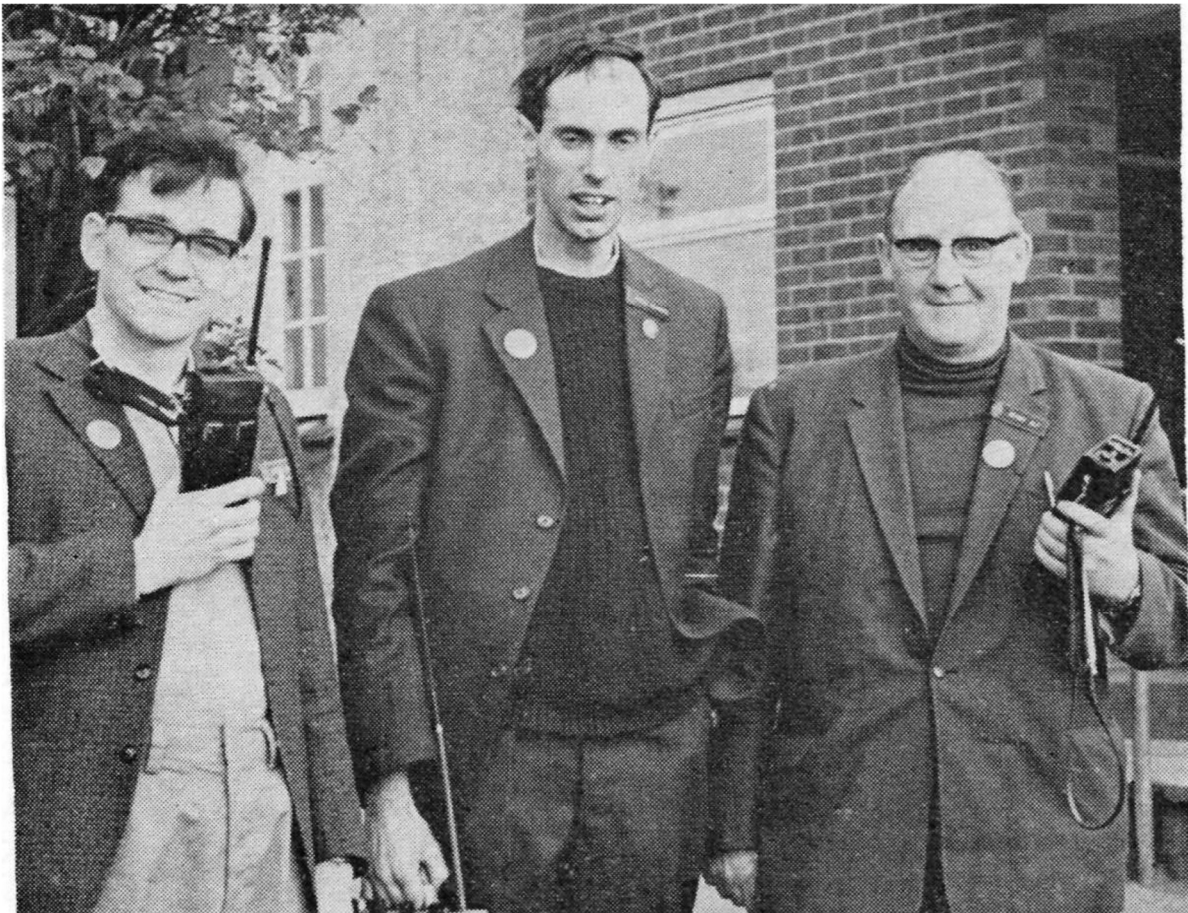
G0REM TED

R.H. WHITLEY lived in Scott G8EQY's house in 1947

Eric Brumby

OTHER INFORMATION

Around Peterborough way, there is a net, operating daily on 145.00 MHz, using hand-held transceivers. Left to right, they are G3RED, G3TGO and G8GNV, all members of the Peterborough Amateur Radio Society. They function as the "Industrial Net" (or "Three Musketeers") during the works lunch-hour.



February 1936

The Peterborough Group, whose numbers are rapidly increasing all report being active. G5NX, the president of the new Short-wave Society, has moved into the country and makes G2NJ, who experiences local QRM very envious.

April 1936

At the request of the members living in and around Peterborough, it has been decided to attach them to the Home Counties District; Mr Carter G2NJ is the Town Representative – Now district 8 not 4.

June 1936

G2NJ has purchased a hand generator ready for portable operation at a later date on the Norfolk coast. G2UQ is testing aërials. G6LX and G6PD are at Cambridge and Nottingham University respectively. 2075 is Secretary of the local Radio Society. 2171 reports activity. The date for the P.D. Meeting is drawing near, and it is essential for those wishing to attend to apply in writing to the D.R. for accommodation before June 28. This request must be compiled with by all if the meeting is to be a success owing to the necessity of making the reservations at the venue accordingly.

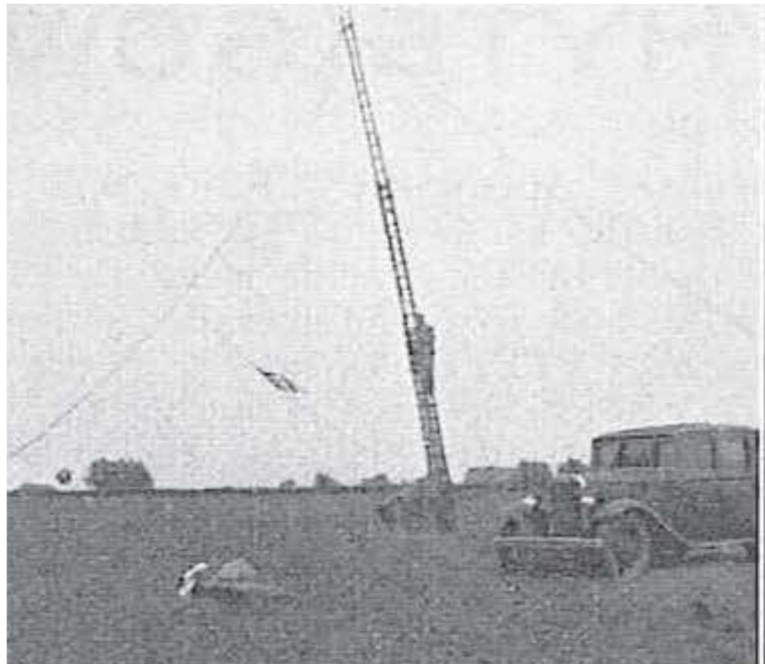
N.F.D. at Peterborough July 1938

There were two particularly interesting features about the 7 Mc. stations operated by District 8 at Dogsthorpe, in the borough of Peterborough. One was the site, "which during the Great War was used as a radio listening station for detecting the approach of Zeppelins. Subsequently Professor Appleton conducted experiments at the station. The only indication that anything unusual has existed there is a small brick building, minus its window, with barbed wire round the door (to keep away cattle) and an old pathway. The latter, was, we believe, used by sentries during the war.

July 1938

The other feature was the novel aerial mast employed. This was an old escape ladder belonging to Peterborough Volunteer Fire Brigade. The Peterborough group secured it in an interesting way. Having passed his Morse test, a local member decided to hold a little celebration and invited Mr. Harold Barfoot, who was one of the earliest members of the Society, and the writer to attend. *N.F.D.* cropped up during the chat, and the question of an aerial mast arose.

It was then that Mr. Barfoot, who was formerly a member of the Volunteer Fire Brigade, made the happy suggestion that the old fire escape might come in useful. A visit to the chief officer of the Brigade and the donation of a small subscription to the funds resulted in the escape being placed at our disposal for *N.F.D.* How the escape was towed from the premises of a local butchery, through the streets of the cathedral city to the site could best be told by G3DY, who seemed to be an expert in shifting and handling it! The task of climbing the escape and attaching one end of the aerial rope to it and the other to a high tree was carried out by the skipper (G2UQ), who went up aloft with the agility of a fire fighter. As to the results obtained by the station (which by the way, was the first to be operated at Peterborough in the history of *N.F.D.*), we can only say that the total points scored compared most favourably with those of the leading 7 Mc. station last year. G2XJ.



The Fire-escape doing its bit during N.F.D

July 1938

At Peterborough, G2NJ continues with his aerial experiments and hopes soon to have some useful information for the BULLETIN.

G2UQ and G3DY built the transmitter for the 7 Mc. N.F.D. stations and made a truly portable job of it. It certainly did its job very well, as also did the receiver constructed by G3BK.

Reports are very scarce, although most stations are known to be active. At Peterborough a pair of 55ft masts are in the course of erection by G5NF, and at Cambridge a pair of 50ft ones will shortly appear at G2XV's QRA

Twenty for G2NJ meant, primarily, a trip to the Fens with G5NX. G5NX was up front with the two -metre Phone and the steering-wheel, while G2NJ has the back seat and the U niden rig on Twenty CW. They were parked outside a shop when an arm came through the window and the QSL of G3 M LP on the end –a nice personal QSO with which to start the trip! Once they got out on to the Fen districts, G2NJ found it ideal for a radio amateur, with a far lower local noise level than, say, Peterborough, and little man-made noise. An interesting CW QSO during this trip was with SR2WI in Gdynia, running 700 watts, followed by HB9BWJ!P near Zurich, and so on and so on - leaving Nick wishing for a shack in the Fens!

October 1938

From Peterborough comes the news that G3DY is constructing a rotary beam. G2UQ is now using a Zepp on 7 Mc. G5NP finds it is impossible to erect his 55ft poles in the small space available and has reluctantly had to dispose of them. G2NJ is experimenting with a W3EDP aerial on 14 Mc.

November 1938

From Peterborough we learn that G3DY has a motor-driven 65ft revolving beam, almost completed, for use on 14 Mc. G2UQ, using a Zepp aerial, has a fine signal on 7 Mc. G2NJ operates from alternative QRA's. During the week he works on 7 and 14 Mc from Peterborough whilst at weekends he uses a CO on 1.7 Mc from his bungalow on Heacham beach.

January 1939

During Christmas week G2NJ of Peterborough received a listeners report from an ex-Naval telegraphist residing in London. The report was on a postcard addressed to W /T Station, Call-letters G2NJ, c/o G.P.O, London. In spite of this meagre information, the card reached the addressee promptly, being contained in an O.H.M.S. envelope which bore 2NGJ's full address. This demonstrates once again the helpful spirit of the Post Office towards Amateur Radio.

February 1939

G2NJ (Peterborough) hopes to be on the air again shortly from his new QRA but has reason to anticipate machinery interference. G3BK (March) is active on 14 Mc, while G3WW is getting out well on 7 Mc phone. G3DY (Whittlesey) is working U.S.A. on 14 Mc

March 1939

G2NJ who is now active from his new QRA tried a centre-fed aerial, but has changed to a Zepp which he finds very satisfactory for working W's on 7 Mc. G6LX is too busy on radio-research at the Cambridge Cavendish Laboratories to get on the air these days.

June 1939

G3BK built the 7 Mc transmitters for N.F.D., and tested it out from G3DY's station. G3WW has invested in an Eddystone E.C.R. receiver. G3DY, whose sixty-foot lattice tower is a landmark, is erecting a closely spaced four-element rotary beam. G2NJ who is on 1.7 and 7 Mc works from Heacham, Norfolk, at week-ends. He has just had his 4,000th QSO.

July 1939

G2NJ reports a QSO with G6HB of Bedford who was paying a flying visit to his home after returning from Japan and China. He was about to leave for an unknown destination, but sends his regards to District members.

July 1940

We understand that G3DY is a Parashot. (Let them have it Colin.) He also does duty at the A.R.P. control Centre. In his letter G2NJ says some very complimentary things about the Cambridge A.R.P. personnel, but to this G5BQ can only reply. "They also serve who only stand and wait" G6LX who is at an experimental air defence station has now been joined by his old colleague G6PD who has been on research work at Birmingham for some years. G5NP is busy with A.R.P. work.

July 1940

So this is when it was changed from Kilocycles to Kilometres

Kilocycles-Metres conversion tables

Copies of this very useful 64 page publication in vest pocket booklet format are available from Headquarters price 1s 4d each post free.

August 1940

G2NJ was happy to run across GW2WO (Swansea) and G2AOU (Channel Islands) in London recently, all three being bent on the same errand. Over tea at a Corner House, ham experiences were recounted. G5NP has been appointed Deputy Group Warden in connection with A.R.P. and G3DY is putting in a lot of time with L.D.V. G3WW who is fully occupied with A.R.P. has been investigating the possibility of sending impulses over the mains to warn A.R.P. services.

September 1940

G3DY is at the key again – but not on the air. Actually, he is giving the Home Guard, of which he is a member, tuition in Morse. Seeing that he is also attached to A.R.P. control his spare time must be very fully occupied. G2NJ who does a lot of listening, comments on the increased activity on 7 Mc in the evenings. D's seem to be increasing and he also reports hearing an OK on this band.

October 1940

G2NJ who has been unwell, is now progressing favourably. G3DY has no news and G2UQ has recently had a medical for joining the R.A.F. No news of the twins, G3WW and G3BK this month. G2NJ has also had a visit from G8NS who was able to give him news of G8ON a former resident of Peterborough.

November 1940

A really sad blow has fallen for our indefatigable T.R., Bill Carter G2NJ has departed to take up work elsewhere. Though his QRA will have changed, ours will be the same, so we hope to hear from him just as regularly. G2UQ has joined the R.A.F. as a radio mechanic. G3WW recently visited Cambridge and reported "all well with G3BK and self" G2XV called on G3DY who is going strong but would like to see the old neon tube lighting up again.

HPX LADDER

(Starting January 1, 1960)

SWL PHONE PREFIXES ONLY

Dr. B. McCombe (Peterborough) 244

The silence of B. McCombe (Peterborough) is fully accounted for; Brian has been building himself a Heathkit HW-100 ready for the day when he gets his licence. The beast is completed, and, we gather, has been air-tested by G3KPO with gratifying results, so all that remains is to get that Morse up to scratch!

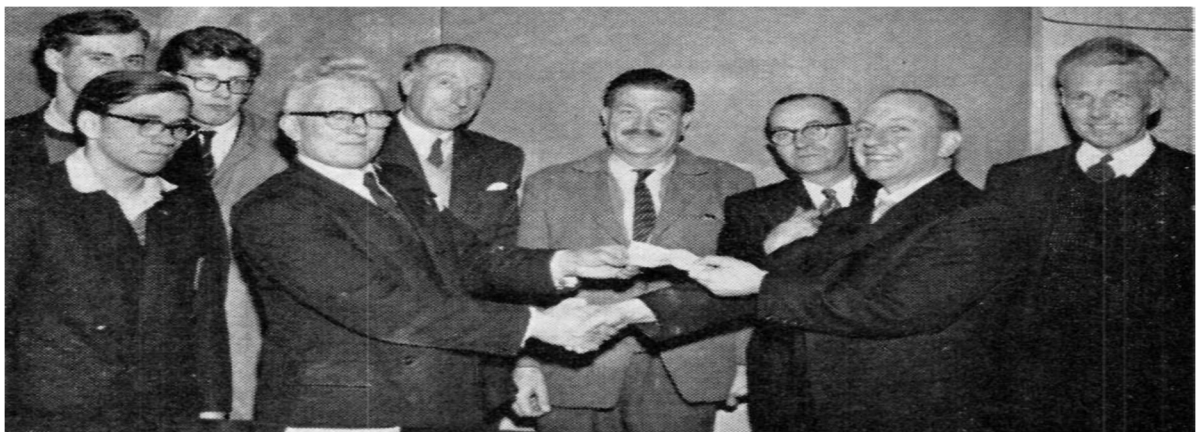
Another group to be celebrating a thirtieth anniversary was Peterborough Radio and Electronics Society, who had a party on June 18 1976, at the Fitzwilliam Arms, Marholm (ladies invited). For more details both on this and on the Club itself, get in touch with G3EEL.

Shuttle Monitoring and LDEF

Mr J. D. Pyle wrote from Peterborough to say that he had been able to listen in to January's shuttle mission with his Lowe HF-125 receiver tuned to 21.393MHz u.s.b. He heard the crew talking with the lady mission controller as they prepared to rescue the Long Duration Exposure Facility (LDEF) satellite at 1517UTC, or, as mission control said, quotes Mr Pyle, 2 days 3 hours and 41 minutes into the mission. The broadcast was organised by the Goddard Amateur Radio Club. I was unable to listen to that shuttle flight owing to illness. LDEF was originally deployed in April 1984 by STS-41C some 300 miles up and carried 57 science and technology experiments. It would have been retrieved 4 years ago but for the Challenger disaster. Ken Whayman of Bexley heath is primarily a short-wave listener who is interested in RTTY and FAX decoding and writes to say that he wants to venture into space! Ken has a Spectrum 128 computer and was thinking about buying a Commodore C64 or a VIC 20 and was wondering whether they could be used for displaying satellite pictures.

HELP! Avid non-technical S/W listener requires simple effective gen/coverage Antenna for 25ft long garden drawings gratefully received have Eddy stone gen cover RVR, many headaches with this problem many thanks happy listening — Eric Brumby, 82 Bluebell Avenue, Peterborough.

G2NJ (Peterborough) mentions waiting patiently on 80 for PA3AES/MM working a string of PA's; when he announced that he was going QRT, Nick just got in a quick call achieving a QSO towards his Maritime Club Award. Nick also mentions a QSO with G3TLF up in Hull, with a real crystal - like note and good CW. Fred was always a good CW man and many an amateur has been helped to pass the Morse by G3TLF, and all with the same key - obtained, covered in tar, back in 1964, from Ireland, and lovingly restored. Also by way of G2NJ, we notice that G3KPO has finally worn down the patience of the Isle of Wight Tourist Board, and they have some rather nice QSLs, showing the spot in Alum Bay where Marconi conducted early experiments on one side, and the usual data on the back; the view side is nicely proportioned for the overprinting of call and QTH data.



When the former Peterborough Radio & Scientific Society was wound up some time ago, it was left with assets worth £180. This handsome sum has now been made over to the present Peterborough & District Amateur Radio Society, and here we see the ceremony of the cheque, with smiles and congratulations all round.

D. Yeoman (Peterborough) wrote originally to G3KFE, who passed it on as being more appropriate to this piece. Dave mentions that the Peterborough Club has a SWL contest in the form of countries heard in the current year, a ladder being published in their Newsletter each quarter. For himself, Dave's score is 177 countries this year from a half-size "5RV" aerial and a Trio JR-310.

July 1975

A new one is formed at Peterborough; no details are given, save that it is to be called "Greater Peterborough Amateur Radio Club," and further information is to be obtained from the hon. treasurer, whose address for the moment appears in our Secretaries' Panel, until we receive that of the appointee.

There are two clubs at Peterborough; the first one is called the Greater Peterborough group, with HQ. at Southfields School, Stanground, Peterborough, alongside the A605, on the fourth Thursday. The other Club in this area is the Peterborough Radio and Electronics Society, and is also a once -monthly business, this time on the third Friday each month; G3HXR has the stand in March to talk about Interference and Suppression.

Incidentally the lads would like it known that they are the original Peterborough group and are in no way connected with the Greater Peterborough Club.

On to G2NJ (Peterborough) who has largely continued the late-night operating, but only because of the awful local electrical noise which now afflicts him during the day. One would have thought that a little bit of D/F with a transistor radio would be enough to locate it fairly accurately down to a house and even to a part of a house: three or four bearings should be enough to pinpoint the offender, and a neighbourly remark to the effect that it might be a serious fire risk as it arcs, should be enough to remove it! Anyway, to return to our last (we do seem to be going off at tangents this month!) G2NJ noted around midnight OZ8OQ and ON6IT, both demonstrating how well an indoor aerial can be made to radiate. SP2LQD was sitting with his one -watt signal right in the middle of a horde of heavies all calling "CQ DX only" – and getting QSO with G2NJ.

Another Hon. Sec. to upgrade his call is at Greater Peterborough; he was G8ZVW and has become G4NRJ - congratulations. During August, he says, the club will be holding informal sessions at venues to be announced, so if you are thinking of looking them up, a hail to G4NRJ will bring the up-to-date word.

The Peterborough Packet Group is at the moment going through what their secretary Robert G4PYR describes as a 'trauma' in setting up their packet node in Peterborough. It's a multi-band, multi-port affair under the callsign GB7PE, and will be situated on a block of flats just outside the city centre. With the block being 14 storeys high, and the contracted access to the roof being by ladder only, their technical man Dick G8YXE may have to have a good head for heights as well as being very fit with all the climbing. Your scribe was told by the group that minor points such as the £750 costs in setting the nodes up are currently taking up many evenings of discussions in the pub. Their Treasurer, Nigel G1ARV, during sober periods thrives on generating various fund raising schemes, and the local Peterborough Radio and Electronics Society have also helped out with a donation. If you fancy joining in, either with supporting the group or joining in the evenings as well, then contact G4PYR @ GB7PET, you can even call him on his poser phone on 0836 542630. Remember someone has to pay for the nodes - no nodes, no packet network - and the man hours of work in running them comes free.

Peterborough have recently changed their name to "The Peterborough Radio and Electronics Society" which widens their horizon a little. Every Friday they foregather at the old Windmill on the London Road ideally situated, so they say, between the pub, the car-park, the railway, and a garage!

Peterborough enrolled seven new members in seven minutes at their recent meeting, at the home of G3KPO, formerly GC3KPO. Arrangements have been made to gather there on the first Friday of the month, 7.30 p.m., and anyone interested in Amateur Radio or short-wave listening is welcome.

A change of Secretary is noted at Peterborough (not to be confused with the Greater Peterborough lot!) which puts G3EEL into the Address Panel. For this month, they are changing their usual routine. which would put them on Good Friday so as to foregather on April 23, at the Scout Hut Occupation Road for an "Activity Night."

At their AGM in November, Peterborough decided to keep their sub at 5s, also to hold a rummage sale and a Mobile Rally to help with the funds. They are very glad to have acquired an old windmill as a clubroom and station-this is just behind the Peacock Inn on the London Road, and will be open to visitors every Friday night.

Peterborough seemed slow, but at the end of the day I was quite surprised at the quantity of the items I had bought. One box, picked up for £10 on the “bring and buy” was simply labelled "Radio Set" in English. The rest of the label was in Japanese and some of it has since been translated as “Tokyo police motor cycle unit”. I'll bet there is an interesting story behind how that ended up at a radio rally! With no information and no crystals fitted, getting it going has proved an interesting exercise. Opening it up (by the way it's a very small unit, about the size of a car radio) revealed a UHF single channel transceiver.

The best way to size up a transmitter you have no knowledge of is to connect up a dummy load and 12 volts (via an ammeter) and poke a signal generator up the crystal socket. Wind the frequency of the generator up whilst holding the mike button down and look for an increase in current taken from the 12 volt supply. When you get some action, note the frequency of the signal generator, and the level of drive required up the crystal socket to get your output. It is then a good idea to try poking the unit with half, one third, double and triple the frequency. If you need less drive on any other frequency, then that is probably the one required. In the case of the motorcycle unit; the current meter tweaked at 26MHz, and the power meter in the dummy load showed a healthy five watts at 468MHz, the output frequency being found with an absorption wave-meter. Dividing 468 by 26 gives 18, thus the unit multiplies up the crystal by 18. I wished to use the unit on RBO, the local 70cm repeater, thus dividing the required 434.6MHz by 18 gave me the 24MHz crystal frequency required.

A suitable crystal was installed, the unit re-tweaked and that was it. Unfortunately the receiver was not so simple. The golden rule with receiver alignment is to find the IF frequencies. In this case a good look round revealed a little box with 10.7 written on it, in English! It was thus a good bet to hope that this was the first IF frequency. Be careful though, a lot of new units use 21.4 MHz (the delightful Nova rig from the recently bankrupt Nólton group is a case in point) or 24 and 35MHz lurk to catch the unwary. With the Unit in the receive mode, wave the signal generator at the filter just to check the IF, detector and audio are working: I find a Nombrex signal generator, picked up for a fiver, sufficient for most of the general work in the shack.

The problem with aligning an unknown, receiver is that two signal sources are required, one up the mixer and one up the aerial socket of the transceiver. A good way out of this is to use another transceiver to provide the aerial signal. In this case a Pye Pocket-phone on RBO was held near 6" of wire jammed in the aerial hole. Although this signal will eventually be 1.6MHz off the required one (don't forget this is the 70cm offset frequency) it's better than no signal at all! Don't

forget you are blocking out the repeater, so keep on checking no-one is using it. Wind the frequency of the generator around with it either poking the crystal socket, or, in desperate cases, into the mixer itself. If you hear any carrier, turn the aerial signal (in this case the pocket-phone) on and off to check you haven't got a birdy, then tweak all the front end trimmers for maximum. Try multiplying the frequency of the generator by whole numbers, then subtracting the IF frequency to make some sense. If this doesn't add up, try adding the IF frequency. Although a fair amount of calculator work was required it eventually transpired that the multiplication was a factor of six with the mixer running 10.7 high.

The Greater Peterborough crowd have Hq. at Southfields School, Stanground, with the booking for the fourth Thursday, starting at 7.30. No details are noted of the activity for May, though we notice G8COB did them proud with his talk on Aerials back in March. As for the other Peterborough group, we only have news of them indirectly this time-for their "vital statistics" we refer you to the secretary-see Panel.

G2NJ mentions a long CW QSO with G5NX/M while the latter travelled from Southwell, Notts., to Peakirk near Peterborough; G5NX both driving and keying the rig. On other occasions they have been out together, when G5NX/M has been VHF and G2NJ/M on the HF bands. G6ZG was worked a couple of times in Norfolk, once near Bacton and again when he was on the side of the River Ant (well known to Broads' lovers). G2CAS/P was also noted, from the Bridlington area. Nick also mentions helping a local radio amateur carry a No. 19 set back to his car after it failed to make the reserve of 50p at an auction. G4FIM up in Leeds uses one to turn out a rock -steady CW signal of 15 watts or so.

MCC scoreboard

Position	Club Callsign	Score
1	Guernsey GU3HFN	19747
2	Kingsway Tech. Coll., Dundee	18000
3	Glenrothes GM4FSF	16750
4	Lisnasharragh High School GI4ABZ	15004
5	White Rose G3XEP	13462
6	IRTS Region 1 "B" EI2BB	11739
7	Plymouth G3PRC	11362
8	Maidstone YMCA G3TRF	11264
9	Sutton & Cheam "A" G2DMR	11232
10	Torbay G4EDG	11074
11	Edgware G3ASR/A	10305
12	North Staffs. G4BEM/A	9366
13	Sutton & Cheam "B" G4CWH	9240
14	Surrey G3SRC	9000
15	South Manchester G3FVA	8120
16	Acton, Brentford & Chiswick G3IIU	5535
17	STC, Paignton G3WMK	4455
18	Greater Peterborough G4BBA	4320
19	Addiscombe G4ALE	4185
20	Pembroke GW2OP	4170
21	Clifton G3GHN/A	3780
22	Cheltenham (Association) G5BK	1008
23	Yeovil G3CMH/A	686

A telephone message now from G4JDL Robert, who works as the communications officer with 115 Peterborough Squadron of the Air Training Corps, Robert informs me that the ATC net can be heard on Sundays and on Wednesday nights on various Hf., v.h.f. and u.h.f. frequencies and would like to request QSL cards from amateurs and others who catch them on. The ATC also operate special event stations such as the GB ATC series and, while they cannot reply to any QSLs, would appreciate any you may wish to send. You can 'phone Robert on (01733) 760005 or write to him at: 21 Clayton, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough PE2 5SB. He also tells me that the squadron enjoyed a visit to an Architect Station before Christmas and that it was a brilliant session which allowed him to see just how things work in the RAE Please try and QSL if you possibly can!

Some frequencies available for those who might be interested and who have a unit near to them can be found as follows:

149.275, 149.400, 153.825, 158.825, 159.625 - v.h.f. and 435.750, 435.625, 456.8625 u.h.f.

Keen readers will have spotted that these are listed, variously, but they can be confirmed as being used. Also, Sea Cadets have been reported on 69.300 a.m. Lower down, the ATC can be heard on their channels Victor 11 - 37.300, VI2 -

36.800, VI3 - 38.100 and VI4 - 40.200. Nets can also be caught variously around the country and I would try out 69.225 or 69.975. Again, do let me know what you get

Now to Peterborough, who are in process of sorting themselves out a new Secretary, because G3KPO (who has been their "rock and prime mover" for many years) is moving to the Isle of Wight - no doubt we shall have the new incumbent's "vital statistics" in due course. Meantime, how to contact the Club? One suggestion might be to ask the folk at the Rose and Crown, opposite the City Police station, around the first Friday in the month. Another could be to investigate the Windmill at Alwalton.

S. W. C. Harbour (Peterborough) wants to know if the recently released No. 10 Crystal Calibrator can be used by SWL's who are aspiring amateurs. They certainly can, with some simple modifications; an article on the subject is on p.490

So in conclusion it would appear that Amateur Radio came to Peterborough approximately 1936. There have been radio clubs in Stamford, March, Peterborough and Spalding to name a few. Unfortunately we only have a couple of the original members from 1975 still with us. We do have the original diary and visitor books from 1975 and up to today if anyone would like to see them.

On Sunday 20th July 1975 a small group of people interested in forming an active Amateur Radio Club in Peterborough met at 258 Coneygree Rd. Those present were Peter G4BBA, Alistair G4DJZ, Fred, Allen, Chris, Dave and George.

After a general discussion it was decided to go ahead with the idea and the GREATER PETERBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB was born, with George elected Chairman and Peter as Secretary, all other members to act as Committee. A set of Club Rules based on those suggested by the R.S.G.B. were drawn up and the annual Subscription was fixed at £1 for adults and 25p for Students and Senior Citizens.

It was decided that the first target for the G.P.A.R.C. would be the Contest to be held on 6th and 7th September, application would be made for affiliation to the R.S.G.B. and also for our own Club Call Sign. During the meeting refreshments were served by Doreen XYL of Fred and the meeting closed at 18:00 hrs having made considerable progress.

24/7/75

The second meeting of the GPARC was held on the 24/7/75 at the shack of Ron (G4DXW). After a brief report of the first meeting by Peter (G4BBA) Secretary, The Chairman reported that Mr. Robert Dann of Robert Dann Plant Hire Ltd. had offered the use of a site and facilities at Whittlesey for the club's use in the September contest.

The 15 members present visited the site, accompanied by Mr. Dann, to inspect the proposed location, which included a large hut and a caravan. Upon returning to Ron's shack, where coffee was served, members expressed their delight with the site, and it was decided to accept the offer.

Ron was elected Treasurer of the GPARC. A discussion was then held to decide the construction project to be started at the next meeting, which will be held on Thursday, August 7 at 258 Coneygree Road.

Club Photos

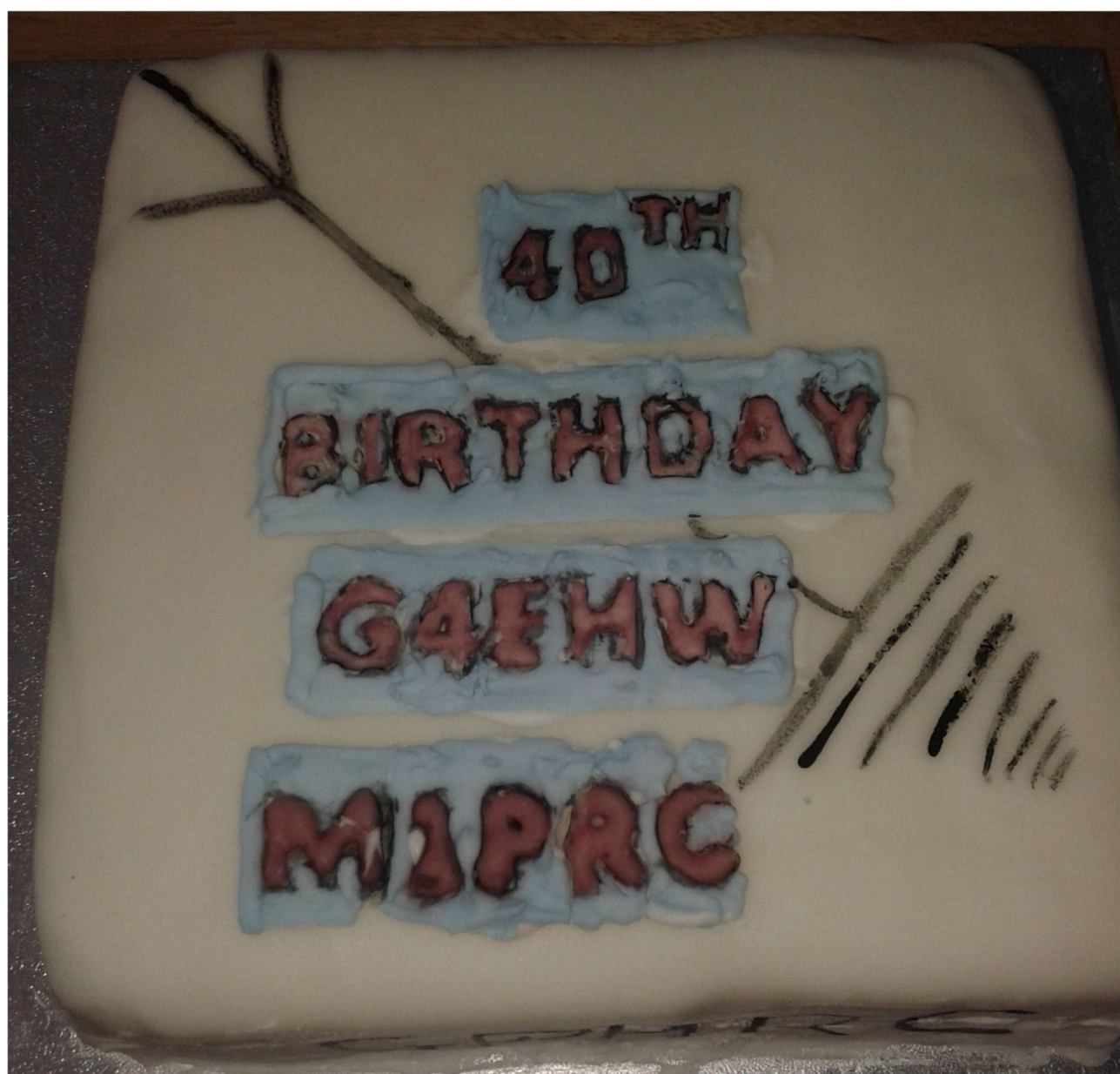












PADARC 50th Birthday Dinner

On the 23rd July, 24 club members attended the clubs Anniversary dinner held at the club qth Mace Road. The meal was a fish and chip supper. The club had an anniversary cake made by Katie YL of M1NER. The Club president Ron G4DXW was invited to cut the cake.



Members Present:-

ALAN G8XLH, TRACEY M5ATR, JOHN G4HPW, IAN 2E0IFZ, CLAIR M7YLC, STEVE G0WXP, ARTHUR G0ART, JONATHANM7VJL, VERNON G4KPZ, SNOWY G0HZE, DAVID T G4FKI, ALISTAIR G4DJZ, COLIN G4FFN, SCOTT G8EQY, DEREK G3HZ, DAVE S G4FVK, RON G4DXW, GEOFF G8SPG, CHIP G1JFD, SUE SWL, KATIE SWL, ANDY M1NER, KIRSTEN M0JCI, MARK G6SIC

