


# BRITAIN'S PREMIER MAGAZINE FOR THE DO-IT-YOURSELF RADIO AND ELECTRONICS CONSTRUGTOR 

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We regret that we are unable to supply back numbers of Practical Wireless. Readers are recommended to enquire at a public library to see copies. Requests for specific back numbers of Practical Wireless and Television only can be published in our CQ Column.

NEWS \& COMMENT<br>24100 YEARS ON-Leader article and June preview 25 NEWS . . . NEWS . . . NEWS . . .<br>34 HOTLINES on recent developments by Ginsberg<br>47 TELEVISION Coming in the May issue<br>48 PRODUCTION LINES-Products reviewed by Colin Riches<br>48 COMING SOON IN P.W.<br>49 NEXT MONTH IN PRACTICAL WIRELESS<br>73 ON THE AIR<br>73 Broadcast Bands, Short Wave-Malcolm Connah<br>74 Medium Wave-Charles Molloy<br>74 VHF/FM-Simon David<br>7 Amateur Bands, Short Wave/VHF-David Gibson G3JDG

## CONSTRUCTIONAL

6 OSCILLOSCOPE TRACE DOUBLER-A. Foord
41 TAKE 20 No. 59, Electronic Timer-David Andrews
42 CAR CASSETTE AUDIO BOOSTER-D. Welch
50 EXPERIMENTAL WORKSHOP-M. J. Hughes, M.A.
56 THE MINI-POP Pocket m.w. receiver-F. G. Rayer, G3OGR
59 "P.W. CRATA" Cassette Recorder and Tuner Amplifier Part 3Richard Collin

## OTHER FEATURES

37 GOING BACK-Marconi Centenary-Colin Riches \& Arthur Dow 63 TECHNICROSS No. 4 64 OSCILLOSCOPE TECHNIQUES Part 3-Alan C. Ainslie

## - EXTRA WITH THIS ISSUE SUPPLEMENT-"GUIDE TO LONG RANGE RECEPTION' OF RADIO AND TELEVISION'



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Total Value approx. 1165 GARRARLI SP25 Mk IV or McDONALD
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MARQUESS 30
MacDONALD MP60


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PAIR DIPLOMAT 10w SPEAKERS, Teak Veneer finish. Cirr. EL

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Attractive Black and Silver finished metal fascia plate and matching control knobs. COMPLETE HIT OF PAARTS INOLDDING FOLLE WIRED PRINTED CIRCOIT And COMPRERENSIVE WIRING DIAGRAMS ©INBTRUCTI Or Factory buly nteak

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Heavy construction. Latest h/gh effciensy cernmle magnet.
plasticised Cone surround. "D" or "T" indicates Tweeter Cone prowding extemded trequency range up to 15,000 c.p.s. HF808T $\quad 8$ Exceptional perlormance at low cost. $\begin{array}{lccccccc}\text { HF808T } & 8^{*} & 10 \mathrm{~W} & \text { £2.65 } & \text { HF1R0D } & 12^{\prime \prime} & \text { 15W } & \text { e5. } 50 \\ \text { HP102D } & 10^{\prime \prime} & 10 W & \text { £3.30 } & \text { HF128 } & 12^{\prime \prime} & 15 W & \text { R8.35 }\end{array}$

FANE 807T HIGH FIDELITY SPEAKER A full range 8 th. 10 watt unlt for excellent sound quait 5 , in suitable
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 MODEL 803T $8^{\prime \prime}$ 15w. with parasitic Tweeter.
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Visually matches
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E37.50

For Magnetic or Ceramic Pick-Ups regardless of Price. Output (per channel) 15 watts RMS COMPLETE KIT into $8 \Omega$. Fre- (less cabinet). $\cap \cap \cdot 5 \Omega$
Ruency Response Carr. 70 . 7 Hz to 70 KHz Cabinet if req. $/$ FACTORY BUILT UNIT INC CABINET with 12 months' guar- $f 49.50$
antee. Or Dep. $£ 7$ and 8 monthly $\mathbf{~} 4$ CABINET with 12 months 8
antee. Or Dep, $£ 7$ and 8 mont
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results with any $\$ 5.50$ 8in. Hi-Fi speaker. $\mathbf{1 5} \cdot 50$ SE10 For outstanding results with $10 i n . \mathrm{Hi}-\mathrm{Fi}$ $\underset{\substack{\text { spkr. Size } \\ \times \text { 9in. Ported }}}{2516 \times 16} \mathbb{£ 6 . 7 5}$

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Consisting of matched 12 in . 11,000 line 15 Watt 15 ohm high quality speaker, cross-over unit and tweeter. Smooth response and extended frequency range
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$\mathbf{E 6} .50$
33 p ensure surprisingly realistic reproduction. $\mathbf{C 6}{ }^{33 \mathrm{p}}$ HF126 15,000 LINE SPEAKER $\quad \mathbb{7 . 6 5} 39 \mathrm{p}$
R.S.C. TA6 6 Watt HI-FI AMPLIFIER 200-250v. AC mains operated. Response $30-10.000$ c.p.s. -vel
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R.S.C. TAI2 MKIII 6.5+6.5 WATT STEREO AMPLIFIER Fully Transistorised. Hi-Fi o/p of 65 watts per channel. Optimuni performance with any crystal or ceramic P.U. Cartridge, Katlio Tuner. Tape Rec. etc. Input Sel. Bwitch, Bass,
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AUDIO FIDELITY FR1 SPEAKER KIT Reaponse $30 \mathrm{~Hz}-15 \mathrm{KHz}$. Rating 15 Watta. Imp. 8-15 ohms, Reaponse 30 Hz-1 Pressure
$8^{\prime \prime}$ Bass Untt, Pa
Twecter, Crose-over etc.
ance with any 8 in .
Hi Fi speaker.
Size $19 \times 104 \times 9 \mathrm{in}$.
16.50

SE12 $2 \times 10 \frac{1}{2} \times 9 \mathrm{~m}$
SE12 For excellent per-
formance with 12 in . $\mathrm{Hi}-\mathrm{F}$
speaker and tweeter $=7.95$
$254 \times 16 \times 9$ in.
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£14.99
Pair

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Consists of (1) 12 in . 15 watt Bass
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| R.S.C. TRANSFORMERS, L.F. CHOKES \& RECTIFIERS Pruly quaranteed |  |
| :---: | :---: |
|  |  |
| 250 |  |
|  | 25 |
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|  | 250 |
| 25 |  |
| $250-0-250 \mathrm{v} .100 \mathrm{nAA}, 8-3 \mathrm{y}$. $4 \mathrm{a} ., 0-8-6-3 \mathrm{v}$. 3 a . |  |
| $900 \cdot 0 \cdot 300 \mathrm{c} .100 \mathrm{mi}, 6.3 \mathrm{~s}$. $4 \mathrm{a} ., 0 \cdot 5 \cdot 6 \cdot 3 \mathrm{v}$. 3 a . | $300-0.300 \mathrm{v} .130 \mathrm{~mA} .6 .3 \mathrm{~F}$. 4 A ., c.et. 6.3 v . 1 a . |
| $0-0.300 \mathrm{r} .130 \mathrm{~mA} .6-3 \mathrm{v} .4 \mathrm{a}$ c.e., 6.3 r .1 a . | le for Mullard 810 Amplifier |
| uliard | $300 \cdot 0.3005 .100 \mathrm{~mA}, 6$ |
| $80 \mathrm{v} .100 \mathrm{ma}, 6 \cdot 3 \mathrm{v}, 4 \mathrm{a} ., 0$ b-6.3v. | 350.0-360v. 150 |
| $350.0 .350 \mathrm{v} .150 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3 \mathrm{v} .4 \mathrm{a} ., 0.5-6.3 \mathrm{v} .3 \mathrm{3a}$. 22. | or TRANSISTOR POWER PACK |
| $42 \mathrm{~s} \cdot 0-428 \mathrm{v} .200 \mathrm{~mA} .6-3 \mathrm{v} .4 \mathrm{a}$, c.t., 5 vv . 3a. 25 | 8a. $55 \mathrm{p} ; 6.3 \mathrm{v}$. $2 \mathrm{a} .80 \mathrm{p} ; 6.3 \mathrm{v}, 3 \mathrm{a} .85 \mathrm{p} ;$ |
| $425 \cdot 0-425 \mathrm{r} .200 \mathrm{~mA}, 6 \cdot 3 \mathrm{r} .4 \mathrm{a}$., Trice 5 r . 3 a . 25 |  |
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o/s. Soreened
OHARGER TRANBFORMERS 0-9-16v. 1\&2. 81-10,
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 150 watts, $82 \cdot 10250$ watte $88 \cdot 00 ; 500$ watts $\& 8.40$ OUTPUT TRANGFORMERS Puih-Pull 8 watte EL8 4 to $3 \Omega$ or $15 \Omega$ Push-Pull 10 walts 6 VB, $3-5-8-15 \Omega$ Push-Pull Ultra Linear for Mullard 610 , ete. Push-Pull 15-18 rratts, sectionally wound 6L6, KT66, etc., for 3 or $15 \Omega$ 'ush-Pull $20^{\circ}$ watt high quality sectionally wound EL34, $6 \mathrm{~L} 6, \mathrm{KT} 66$ etc. to 3 or 15

$$
\text { input } 18 \text { y. }
$$

1a, 28p. 2a, 39p. 3a, 55p, 4a, 72 g .
L.F. CHOKES
$160 \mathrm{~mA}, 7-10 \mathrm{H}, 230$ $\Omega$. $77 \mathrm{p}: 100 \mathrm{~mA}$. $10 \mathrm{~B}, 200 \Omega 98 \mathrm{c}:$
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$55 \mathrm{p}: 60 \mathrm{~mA}, 10 \mathrm{H}$.
400 ® 28 D.


Ready built unit, ready for connection to the I.F. stages of existing FM Radio or Tuner. A tell take light can be connected. The Unit is a small printed circuit, no further alignment necessary.
L.E.D. is recommended as the indicating light. Suitable device available from us at $36 \frac{1}{2}$ p. Instructions included.


## 5W \& 10W AMPS



These matchbox size amplifiers have an exceptionally good tone and quality for the price. They are only $2 t^{\prime \prime} \times 1 z^{\prime \prime}$, The 5 W amp will run from a 12 V car battery making it very suitable for portable voice reinforcement such as public functions. Two amplifiers are ideal for stereo. Complete connection details and treble, bass, volume and balance control circuit diagrams are supplied with each unit. Discounts are available for quantity orders. More details on request. Cheapest in the UK. Built and tested.

## Now available for 5 \& 10W AMPS

Pre-assembled printed circuit boards $2^{\prime \prime} \times 3^{\prime \prime}$ available in stereo only, will fit 15 edge connector.
Stereo Pre-Amp 1 (Pre 1). This unit is for use with low gain crystal or ceramic pick-up cartridges £1-21
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£1-69
Stereo Tone Control (STC). This unit is an active tone control board and when used with the right potentiometers will give bass and treble boost and cut. $£ 1-21$
Instruction leaflet supplied with all units. Post and packing and VAT included in prices.


## ELECTRONIC IGNITION SYSTEM

This Capacitor-Discharge Electronic Ignition System was recently described in Practical Wireless and has proved extremely popular. We are able to offer the kit in two forms; the standard kit containing the electronic components only, enabling the customer to tailor these to his own layout, or the de-luxe version containing a ready-drilled roller-tinned printedclrcuit board and fully machined die-cast case with A.M.P Electrical Spade Connector Block. Each kit is supplied with a custom wound transformer, first grade components and full constructional details.
The original circult employed Germanium Power Transistors for the negative earth version. WE NOW SUPPLY SILICON P.N.P. POWER DEVICES AT NO EXTRA COST! All components available separately. Case size $4 i^{\prime \prime} \times 3 z^{\prime \prime} \times 2^{\prime \prime}$. Complete assembly and wiring manual 25 p, supplied with deluxe kit only, refundable on purchase of kit.
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## CAPACITORS

Sub-miniature

Asial lead electrolstic And lead electrortic | Mid |
| :--- |
| 1. |
| 1.5 |
| 2.2 |
| 3.3 |
| 4.7 |
| 6.8 |
| 6.8 |
| 108 |
| 10 |
| 10 |
| 15 |
| 15 |
| 15 |
| 22 |
| 22 |
| 22 |
| 33 |
| 33 |
| 33 |
| 47 |
| 47 |
| 47 |
| 47 |
| 47 |

| 63 | ${ }^{60}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 63 | 6p | 68 | 16 8p |  |  |  |
| 63 | 6D | 68 |  |  |  |  |
| 363 | ${ }^{8 p}$ | 100 | ${ }^{8 p}$ |  |  |  |
| 63 | 6D | 100 | 10 | 470 |  |  |
| 40 | ${ }^{6 D}$ | 100 | 25 | 470 | 10 |  |
| 83 | 8D | 100 | 40 | 470 | 25 | 12D |
| 25 | ${ }^{\text {BD }}$ | 100 | 6312 D | 470 | 40 |  |
| 63 | 8D | 150 | 3 | 680 | 6.3 |  |
|  | ${ }^{68}$ | 150 |  | 680 | 16 |  |
| 40 | 6D | 150 | 25 | 680 | 25 | 18p |
| 63 | Bp | 150 | 40 10p |  | 40 |  |
| 10 | ${ }^{8 D}$ | 150 |  | 1000 |  |  |
| 25 | 8p | 220 | 4 | 100 | 10 |  |
|  | 60 | 220 | 10 | 1000 | 16 |  |
|  | Bp | 220 | - |  |  |  |
| 16 | $B_{D}$ | 220 | ${ }_{25}{ }^{10 p}$ | 1500 | 6.3 |  |
| 40 | $6{ }^{6}$ | 220 | 4012 y | 1500 | 10 |  |
| 4 | ${ }_{6 p}$ | 220 | $6318 p$ | 1500 |  | 22 |
| 10 | 6p | 330 |  | 2200 | $6 \cdot 3$ |  |
|  | 6p | 330 | 10 | 2200 |  |  |
| , | ${ }^{60}$ | 330 | 1610 D | 300 | 6.3 |  |
| B | ${ }^{81}$ | 330 | 63 | 470 |  |  |

## OMNIUM

 GATHERUMPP3, 8 etc. battery clip cual min. 9p PPI, 9 etc. battery clip separate per pair 6p Pair crocodile clips 1 red, 1 black insulated sleeve.
Solder Multicore $22^{2} \mathrm{swg} 10$ metres Silicone grease in special dispenser 20ml. 43p Red neon 240 V panel mounting Lacing Corid Strong rayon cored 25 m .
Panel fuse holders $20 \mathrm{mnn} \mathbf{2 0 p}$; $1 \mathbf{t}^{\prime \prime} \quad \mathbf{3 5 p}$
Transformers
LT700 min, output transformer Pri. $1.2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ Sec. $5 \Omega 200 \mathrm{inW}$

Sub-min. Mains Transformer
8-0-6V 100 mA
$12.0-12 \mathrm{~V} 50 \mathrm{~mA}$
Size: Both approx. $30 \times 27 \times 25 \mathrm{~mm}$
Min. Mains Transtornler (Size: 4 f $\times 31 \times$ $38 \mathrm{~mm}) 0.12 \mathrm{~V} 250 \mathrm{~mA}, 0.12 \mathrm{~V} 250 \mathrm{~mA} \quad 21.36$ Mains transformer MT3AT
Pri. $200-220-240 \mathrm{~V}$. Sec. $12.15-20-24-30 \mathrm{Y} 2 \mathrm{OA}$
Mains Transtormer MT206AT
Pri. $200 \cdot 220-240 \mathrm{~V}$, Sec. $0-15-20 \mathrm{~V}$ 1A $0-15-20 \mathrm{~V} 1 \mathrm{~A}$
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## POTENTIOMETERS

Rotary miniature carbon track $f^{\prime \prime}$ spindle
Single gang Lin or Log $500 \mathrm{k}, 1 \mathrm{M}, 2 \mathrm{Mi}$ (and 1 k Lin) 14 D


Slagle gang with DP switch 250 V 2 A Log or Lin $5 k$ to
2 M as above

## PRESETS

Sub-miniature 0.16 Vert or Horiz $100,250,500,1 \mathrm{k}$ | 2.5 k, |
| :--- |
| 50 k, |
| 5 k, |
| $100 \mathrm{k}, ~$ |, 250 k, $500 \mathrm{k}, 1 \mathrm{M}$ Wiremound $10 \% 1$ W $t^{\prime \prime}$ spindle $10,50,100$ R 84p; 250, 500, 1k, 5k 33p; 10k, 37p; 25k 40p; 50k 44p.

## RESISTORS

Carbon Film aW $5 \% 1 \Omega$ to $1 \mathrm{M} ; 10 \%$ 1 2 M to 10 M El: Carbon Film $1 W 5 \% 1 \Omega$ to $10 \Omega ; 10 \% 1 \cdot 2 \mathrm{H}$ to 10 M E1 Carbon Film ow $5 \% 11 \Omega$ to 910 k
Carbon Film 1W $3 \% ~ 10 \Omega$ to 10 M Metal Oxide $+W=\% 10 \Omega$ to 1 M Wiremound $2 \frac{1}{2}$ 10\% $0.220 h m s$ to $0.470 h m s$ Wirewound $2 \frac{1}{3} \mathrm{~W} 5 \% 10 \mathrm{hm}$ to 270 ohms E12 values $10,12,15,18,22,27,33,39,47,56,68,82$ and decades
E24 values $11,13,16,20,24,30,36,43,51,62,75,91$ and decades E24 values 11, 13, 16, 20, 24, 30, 36, 43, 51, 62, 75, 91 and decades

## KNOES

All $t^{\prime \prime}$ shaft. Grub screw fixlng


## SWITCHES

Rotary with adjustable stop 1 pole 2 to 12 way; 2 pole 2 to 6 way 3 polo 2 to 4 way; 4 pole 2 or 3 way, each $32 p$ Mains rotary DPST 250 V 2A 20 p

ush to make non-locking 14p

Toggle 250V 1.5 A Slide SubDPDT ${ }_{8 p}$ Sub-ininisture toggle DPDT toggle) 250 V 3 A 70 D

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£10.95 Brief details of other 'POP' Speakers POP '15' 12" 15 Watt $\mathbf{5 5 . 7 5}$ POP '25/2' 12 ' 30 Watt 68.75 $2^{*}$ Voice Coil
POP '50' 12 " 50 Watt $£ 12.75$
POP '60' 15" 60 Watt $£ 15.95$ $2^{\prime \prime}$ Voice Coil
POP ' 100 ' $18^{\prime \prime} 100$ Watt $£ 27.50$ $3^{-}$Voice Coil
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Rec. Retail Price Rec. Retail Price CRESCENDO '12' CRESCENDO '15'

-
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## POP 55 12" 60 Watt



There is also a $12^{\prime \prime}$ Crescendo Speaker for General Purpose Public Address, and another one for Lead or Rhythm Guitar

## PRICES QUOTED INCLUDE VAT

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sealed packs.
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in
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## NEW MULLARD \& MAZDA VALVES

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## NEW VALVES

Individually boxed and guaranteed but of European or other origin at greatly reduced prices. Quotations for any valve not listed. Send SAE for lists.


|  | 2.00 | 6 J 6 | 0.20 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{BP61}$ | 0.75 | 6 J 7 M | 0.45 |

0.30

U26
1191
$\qquad$

|  | 0.45 | $6 Q 7 M$ | 0.50 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | 0.40 | 6 BF |  |

$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { UBF89 } & 0.40 & 68 L 7 G T & 0.48\end{array}$


## EXPRESS POSTAGE

Each additional Yalve add 2p.

| . 5 | PL84 | c. 68 | 30 Cl 51 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 75 | P1504 | C. 88 | PCF800 | 1.05 |
| 45 | PL.508 | 1.05 | 30 Cl 17 | 1.00 |
| 58 | PL509 | 1.55 | 30 Cl 8 / |  |
| 68 | PL802 | C. 98 | PCF805 | 0.90 |
| 80 | PY33 | 0.86 | $30 \mathrm{~F} 5 / \mathrm{PF}$ | 18 |
| 85 | I $\mathbf{Y} 81 / 800$ | 0.50 |  | $1 \cdot 10$ |
| 65 | PY82 | 0.55 | $30 \mathrm{FLL} /$ |  |
| 51 | P Y 88 | 0.80 | PCE800 | 0.75 |
| 80 | Pris00A | 1.05 | 30 FL 2 | 0.75 |
| 65 | PY800 | 0.50 | $30 \mathrm{FL12}$ | 1.05 |
| 85 | PY801 | 0.50 | 30FL14 | 085 |
| 87 | U26 | 2.00 | 30 L | 84 |
| 65 | U191 | 2.00 |  | 0.52 |
| 71 | U193 | - 50 | 30 L | C805 |
| 88 | UABC80 | 0.90 |  | 1.05 |
| 88 | U BC81 | 0.70 | 30 L 17 | 0.80 |
| 84 | U BF89 UCC85 | 0.60 0.60 |  | 1.80 |
| 88 | UCC85 UCH81 | 0.60 1.00 | 30P12/PC |  |
| 89 | UCH81 | 1.00 0.70 | 30 | 1.05 |
| 88 | UCL83 | 0.70 | 30 P | 802 |
|  | UF89 | 0.80 |  | 1.00 |
| 0.68 | UIR4 | 5.85 | 301'LI/P | L-801 |
| . 55 | UY85 | 1). 50 |  | 0.95 |
| 0.80 | 6/30L2 |  | 30PL13/ |  |
| 0.88 | ECC804 | 1.00 | PCL800 | 1.20 |
| 0.75 0.88 | 6F23/EF8 | 12.05 | 30PL14/ |  |
| 80 | $30 \mathrm{Cl} / \mathrm{PCF}$ |  | PCL88 | 1.25 |
| . 96 |  | 0.51 | 30PL15 | 1.05 |

TRANSISTORS-INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

| EXPRESS POSTAGE <br> 30 for flrst Transistor. for each additicnal add <br> 1 p. |
| :---: |


\section*{| AA119 | 0.7 | BD132 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |}


| AAZ13 | 0.10 | BF115 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| AAZ15 | 0.10 | BF167 |


| AAZ15 | 0.10 | BF167 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| AC107 | 0.35 | BF173 |

$\stackrel{\mathrm{ACl}}{\mathrm{ACl}}$

| ACl |
| :--- |
| ACl |

${ }_{\mathrm{A}}^{\mathrm{ACl}} \mathrm{Cl}$

|  |  | 0 | BF181 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| AC176 | 0.25 | 0.3 |  |
| AC187 | 0.20 | BF194 | 0.1 |
| AC188 | 0.20 | BF197 | 0.15 |


| AC188 | 0.20 | BF195 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| ACY21 | 0.22 | BF200 |
| ACY39 | 0.65 | BFS |


| ACY39 | 0.65 | BFSE1 | 0.2 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| AD140 | 0.50 | BF898 | 0.2 |
| AD149 | 0.60 | BFX29 | 0.28 |


| AD161 | $\mathbf{0 . 3 9}$ | BFX88 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| AD162 | 0.39 | BFY50 |

AF1

|  |  | BFW10 | 0.61 |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: |
| AF286 | 0.40 | BY100 | 0.15 |
| AF2347 | 0.44 | BY126 | 0.14 |
| ASY 27 | 0.80 | BY127 | 0.15 |
| ABY28 | 0.25 | BZX61 | meries |

BC1
BCl
$\underset{\mathrm{BCl}}{\mathrm{BCl}}$


| SN7400 | 0.28 | ON74202 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |


| BN7401 | 0.20 | SN7425 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| SN74 |  |  |


| BN7402 | 0.20 | BN7428 | 0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| SN7403 | 0.20 | MN7430 |  |

$\begin{array}{llll}\text { BN7403 } & 0.20 & \text { BN7430 } & 0 \\ \text { BN7404 } & 0.20 & \text { EN7432 } & 0 .\end{array}$

| 日N7406 | 0.20 | 8N7433 | BN7437 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0.43 |  |  |  |
| 0.43 |  |  |  |


| SN7407 | 0.40 | EN7438 | 043 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| SN7408 | 0.25 | NN7440 | 0.80 |


| BN7409 | 0.33 | EN744 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | ON |  |


| BN7411 | 0.28 | ENT.442 | 0.85 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| BN | 0.85 |  |  |


| BN7412 | 0.28 | BN7450 | 0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 8N7413 | 0.30 | 8N7451 | 0 |


| GN7416 | 0.30 | SN7453 | 0.20 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| SN7417 | 0.80 | BN7454 | 0.20 |


| BN7417 | 0.80 | BN7454 | 0.20 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| BN7420 | 0.20 | BN7460 | 0.20 |


| BN7422 | 0.28 | BN7470 | 0.33 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| N7423 | 0.40 | BN7472 | 0.38 |

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| BF18? |
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| BF194 |
| BF195 |
| BF196 |
| BF197 |
| BF200 |
| $\mathrm{BF} 2^{2} 2$ |
| BP257 |
| BF258 BF259 |
| BF25 |
| ${ }_{\text {BFL }}$ |
| BF゙263 BF2 |
| ${ }^{\text {BF270 }}$ |
|  |
| $\mathrm{BF} 273^{\text {i }}$ |
| BF2\% ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |
| BFW10 |
| BFX29 |
| $\mathrm{BP}^{1084}$ |
| ${ }^{11 \times 885}$ |
| BFX8 |
| BrX87 |
| BrX |
| BFY0 |
| ${ }_{13 \mathrm{FY}}$ |
| ${ }_{3} 13 \mathrm{FY} 5$ |
| P |
| BPX25 |
| B8X 19 |
| BSX |
| BSY25 |
| 13SY26 |
| BgYer |
| B8Y2\% |
| B8Y49 |
| B8938 |
| 18839 BSY40 |
| BSY41 |
| BSY95 |
| B8Y95. |
| ${ }^{\text {Bu }} 105$ |
| C111E |
| ${ }^{\text {C400 }}$ |
| C407 |
| c424 |
| $\mathrm{C}_{4} 23$ |
| C426 |
| C428 |
| C44 |
| C442 |
| $\mathrm{C4H}^{4}$ |
| C450 |
| Matiou |
| Matiol |
| Mative |

$\begin{array}{r}2 \\ 2 \\ \hline\end{array}$



 $\begin{array}{rlrl} & \text { Type } & \text { Pricr } p & \text { Typp } \\ 39 & \text { 2N } 3391 & \text { A } & 18 \\ 38 & 2 N 40 \\ 30 & 2 N 3392 & 16 & 2 N 42\end{array}$




# -fhe lowest prices! 

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## 3 CHANNEL LIGHT MODULATOR

* 1,000 watts per channel
$\star$ Operates from $\frac{1}{8}$ th watt to 100 watts
* Full wave control
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* 10 easy connections
£17.25
Single channel version $£ \mathbf{6} \cdot \mathbf{5 0}$ p



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1 off 4 transistor audio
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$\star 100$ Watts RMS sine wave
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$\star$ Rugged transformer driver
$\star$ Full thermal overload protection
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* 60 Watts RMS sine wave
* RCA 115 Watt output transistors $\star$ Only six connections to make
$\star$ Same size as TL100
TL30 $\quad \star 30$ watts RMS sine wave
* Rugged transformer driver
* 2 RCA output transistors

Ł Full thermal overload protection

Power supplies vacuum impregnated Transformers with supply board incorporating stabilised pre-amp supply:
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Specification on all three power modules:
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7. Keyboard panel
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# 100 YEARS ON.. 

0N April 25th, 100 years ago, Guglielmo Marconi was born. It would be fair to say that the present day conglomerate of wireless, electronics and television owes its existence to Marconi for his teenage experimental studies of the behaviour of electromagnetic waves as a possible means of communication.
It could be that, had Marconi not been instrumental in putting the theory into practice, someone else may have done so. Whilst not detracting from his real talent, one has to admit that it takes courage and determination to convince others of the long-term practical prospects of such an idea in its infancy. Marconi's fortune turned in 1897 when William Preece, at that time Engineer-in-Chief of the G.P.O., had tried without much success to transmit radio waves. Marconi demonstrated a 8.7 mile hop, having succeeded in short distance experiments two years before. It was sufficiently convincing for Marconi to set up his own radio company.
From that day, his work developed into a multiplicity of activity for himself and other scientists, including Sir Watson-Watt (radar) Dr. Fleming (thermionic radio valve), and Brattain, Bardeen, and Shockley (transistor). In the earlier days, it is interesting to note that wireless was used in such "way-out" ventures (then) as aircraft communication in 1910 and the capture of Dr. Crippen the notorious murderer. Then followed wartime activities involving the detection of Zeppelin airships, naval telegraphy and aircraft telephony.

Soon afterwards the small transmitting station 2MT was born, followed by 2LO later to become the nucleus of the P.M.G.'s British Broadcasting Company.

Looking back over the past 80 years or so we have seen exciting developments, far too numerous to list here. There still remains for many who are not closely associated with wireless and electronics an air of mystery about the whole subject.

Practical Wireless is commemorating Marconi's centenary this month by helping newcomers in the art of DXing. We have produced a special pull-out feature that provides a wealth of advice and information for everybody who listens to the radio or watches television, and that is almost everyone.
Marconi was the "father" of practical wireless, the launching vehicle of all other electronics fields. His example of putting ideas into practice was never more true than it is today. For this, his centenary year, we acknowledge a true master of the art.
M. A. COLWELL-Editor.


## Ambisonic system

THE Ambisonic system of quadraphonic sound reproduction, described in the February issue of Practical Wireless, was greeted with considerable enthusiasm at Sonex and the Festival du Son in Paris.

Of the systems currently in use, the Ambisonic system, otherwise referred to in the category of "Kernel" systems, looks like solving much of the problems of compatibility. The mathematics used is different from that used in matrix systems, although it does not employ full discrete channel methods either. The significant difference is in the carefully controlled mixing of signals using pan-pots (although suitable commercial types are not yet available) during recording or transmission on f.m. radio, so that the various decoding systems now employed, except SQ, can be used for reproduction at home. The SQ system needs a vari-matrix interface unit to convert Kernel recordings to SQ.

The results are quite remarkable and it is likely to be the answer to rationalised and compatible quad better than any of the current matrix or discrete systems. The added bonus is that this system could be used for compatible f.m. radio and television broadcasts. Other examples of the Kernel system are the UMX family from Nippon Columbia and the Japanese RM (regular matrix) system, which does not include Sansui's QS approximation to RM. This Japanese RM facility was provided for in the Practical Wireless Q4 Decoder published recently. The other matrix and discrete systems are also available in the Q4 design, making it eminently suitable for immediate use with Ambisonics without fear of obsolescence.

## CQ column

[THE CQ column is a valuable way of obtaining back numbers from other reader,s, but please reimburse expenses and the price of the magazines to those who have kindly offered to help!]-

## BBC on Radio reception

ON Radio reception, the sub-committee of the General Advisory Council of the BBC has recognised that the continued expansion of Radio broadcasting throws an increasing load on channels at present allocated for broadcasting purposes. They accept that the additional coverage required must be provided in the v.h.f. band, and they advise the BBC to pursue representations to the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications as the urgency of transferring service users to other bands in order to clear, at the very least, the $96 \cdot 7-100 \mathrm{MHz}$ band for broadcasting, as is the case in other countries.

They also suggest that the BBC should carry out a determined programme to inform listeners about the desirability of buying multi-wave receivers, having long, medium wave and v.h.f. capability, many of which are available at reasonable prices, in view of the likelihood that increasing reliance will have to be placed on v.h.f. in the future because of international frequency allocations.

The Council accepts that changes in the present frequency patterns for radio might be forced on the BBC by international developments. It urges, therefore, that specific and continuing research on current listening habits in terms of set and waveband usage should be undertaken so that any future changes which might become necessary could be designed to secure as much public acceptability as possible.

## WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY ACT

Readers and advertisers are reminded of the requirements laid down by the Wireless Telegraphy Act. It is an offence in the U.K. to install or operate wireless telegraphy apparatus except under the provisions of the Act and, except in the case of broadcast sound-only receivers, a licence must be obtained from the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications.
Included within the provisions of the Act are any apparatus transmitting deliberate signals for any purpose such as "walkie-talkies", radiocontrolled models or servos and some types of metal detectors. Apparatus radiating interference signals are subject to controls which also come under the administration of the same Ministry. If you require full information, please write to the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, Waterloo, Bridge House, Waterloo Road, London SE1 8UA.

## EMI equip Canadian tower

A$£ 1 \cdot 25$ million contract to equip the new third-of-a-mile high CN observation and communications tower in Toronto, Canada, with a complete antenna complex for all f.m. and TV broadcasting services has been won by the Telecommunications Division of EMI Sound \& Vision Equipment Ltd, Hayes, Middlesex.
The contract was awarded to EMI in the face of intensive international competition, reflecting the company's extensive experience of such special-purpose multiple antenna systems. EMI is established as a major supplier to many broadcasting authorities. In the UK the large number of systems supplied includes the multiple antenna system on the IBA's '1100 foot tower at Emley Moor.

When completed, the 1805 foot high CN tower in Toronto will be the tallest self-supporting structure in the world. The antenna system surmounting the main concrete tower will be carried on a 220 ton needle-shaped steel structure over 300 feet tall.
Transmissions from this height give major benefits in range and the elimination of "ghosting" but, at over 1500 feet, the arduous climatic conditions found normally even at ground level during the Canadian winter are aggravated by extremely severe icing, snow and high winds.
For this reason, an important part of the contract comprised the provision of a glass reinforced plastic radome. This will be designed and constructed in Britain by Hunting Industrial Plastics Ltd, and erected to protect the mast structure during the winter.
The complete installation to be provided by EMI comprises a formation of four arrays arranged as follows:-
Channel 5, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Intended for colour

## New calalogue

ELECTROVALUE have now issued the seventh edition of their catalogue. This firm has built up a reputation over the past nine years of giving excellent service, good quality components at competitive prices, and a range ideally suited to the needs of amateur and professional constructor.


FOR some oscilloscope measuring applications it is essential to display a number of recurrent signals simultaneously. When a true double beam CRT is not available, an electronic switching system can be used to display two (or more) channels on a single beam CRT. The basic block diagram for this arrangement is shown in Fig. 1. In the ALTERNATE mode the channel is changed at the end of each timebase sweep. This mode is suitable when the sweep rate is high enough to avoid a flickering display. In the CHOPPED mode the beam is time-shared between the traces at a fixed rate, and this arrangement is suitable for low frequency signals. Under the chopped mode of operation care has to be taken with the oscilloscope triggering, and it is usual to externally trigger the oscilloscope from the channel signal as required.

## Basic switching circuits

Chopping (or switching) circuits are used in many electronic instrumentation applications and are


Fig. 1: Block diagram for an oscilloscope trace doubling unit.
basically of either the shunt or series type, as shown in Fig. 2, or a combination. The relative merits of the shunt or series arrangement depends on the source and load resistance. For a low source resistance a series chopper is suitable and, in general, the load resistance should be higher than the source resistance. Where the highest performance is required the series-shunt circuit is equal to or better than either the series or shunt chopper alone for any combination of load and source resistance.

Field effect transistors are preferred as switches to bipolar transistors because they do not have an offset voltage when turned on. Even for a zero input voltage, a bipolar transistor has an offset voltage equivalent to the collector-to-emitter saturation voltage between its collector and emitter terminals.

## MOS-FET characteristics

For MOS transistors, where the gate is insulated from the source to drain channel by an oxide layer, four basic types are possible. These are:
$P$ channel depletion
P channel enhancement
N channel depletion
N channel enhancement
An $N$ channel depletion type such as the RCA 3N138 offers the best switching characteristics, with the lowest 'on' resistance for a given geometry, due to the higher mobility of electrons. When the gate-to-source voltage $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{GS}}$ is zero the effective resistance between drain and source is about 200 ohms. If $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{GS}}$ is made positive this decreases to about 100 ohms.

No significant increase in gate current occurs when $V_{G S}$ is made positive for the MOS type. (Unlike a junction-gate field-effect transistor, where the gate and channel form a pn junction and a low gate current can only be obtained when this junction is reverse biased). When a negative voltage of about 6 volts or more is applied between the gate and


Fig. 2: Chopping circuits (a) shunt (b) series and (c) shunt-series.
source, the channel resistance between drain and source becomes extremely high (thousands of megohms). These characteristics are shown in Fig. 3 for the 3 N138.

(KG665)
Fig. 3 : Characteristics of the 3N138 MOS-FET.


Fig. 4: Typical shunt chopper circuit using the 3N138.

## Basic MOS-FET circuit

Figure 4 shows a basic shunt chopper circuit. The gating signal should swing from zero to at least -6 volts and may cover a range of $\pm 10$ volts. The substrate (and thus the case) is usually connected to the source. However if the incoming signal to be chopped exceeds -0.3 volts the substrate must be 'floated', connected to the drain, or biased negatively so that the source-to-substrate and drain-to-substrate voltages never exceed $-0 \cdot 3$ volts. If the value is exceeded, the substrate, which forms two p-n junctions with the drain and the source, becomes forward biased, and the resulting flow of diode current shunts the incoming signal to earth.

## Virtual earth switching circuit

One difficulty with MOS-FET's is that if large signals have to be switched then the high drain-tosource (or gate-to-source) voltages needed cannot always be provided without exceeding the maximum ratings of the device. Under these circumstances a current mode switch may be used instead of the voltage mode switches previously discussed, as shown in Fig. 5. Here $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ and $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ form a shuntserics switch where an input current is diverted to earth or allowed to reach the virtual earth point $Y$. Since either Trl or $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ is always on, the VOLTAGE at point X is always low (a few millivolts) and large input signals can be handled readily. Where the highest performance is not required, $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ can be replaced by silicon diodes which keep point $X$ close to earth potential while Tr 2 is off.


Fig. 5: A current mode shunt-series chopper circuit.
This virtual earth current switching arrangment is particularly convenient for our application because a DC shift voltage can be added into the virtual earth point. The disadvantage of this circuit is that switching spikes tend to be higher than with the voltage switching arrangement, but this is not significant here because the bandwidth is limited by the integrated circuit and not by the switching speed of the FET.


A The unit used in the ALTERNATE mode to display a 10 kHz sine and square wave on a single-beam oscilloscope.
B The CHOPPED mode is being used here to display a 100 Hz sine and square wave. The switching waveform may be visible, depending upon the signal frequency and the oscilloscope's intensity setting.

C A complex tone burst. The sine wave is 1 kHz .

## * components list

## Resistors

| R1 | $330 \Omega$ | R5 | $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R9 | $560 \Omega$ | R13 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R2 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R6 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R10 | $470 \Omega$ | R14 | 10k $\Omega$ |
| R3 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R7 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R11 | $470 \Omega$ | R15 | $47 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R4 | $2 \cdot 2 k \Omega$ | R8 | $560 \Omega$ | R12 | 47SWW | R16 | $47 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R17 22k $\Omega$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

or $\mathrm{IW} 10 \%$
VR1/2/3 $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ linear pots

## Capacitors

| C 1 | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ | C | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C 2 | $0 \cdot 1 \mu \mathrm{~F} 30 \mathrm{~V}$ disc | C | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ |
| C 3 | $0 \cdot 1 \mu \mathrm{~F} 30 \mathrm{~V}$ disc | C 7 | $0 \cdot 1 \mu \mathrm{~F} 30 \mathrm{~V}$ disc |
| C 4 | $125 \mu \mathrm{~F} 16 \mathrm{~V}$ | C 8 | $0 \cdot 1 \mu \mathrm{~F} 30 \mathrm{~V}$ disc |

Semiconductors

| Tr1 | BCY71 | Tr3 | 3N138 | D1-4 | 1N914 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Tr2 | BCY71 | Tr4 | 3N138 | RV1 LM309H |  |

## Miscellaneous

Veroboard $4 \frac{7}{4} \times 3 \frac{1}{5}$ in. 0.1 in. matrix, plain. 3 terminals. S1, 2 pole 4 way wafer. 4 sockets. Aluminium box $5 \times 4 \times 3$ in. Knobs. Veropins 0.1 in . Heatsink for RV1. IC holders, 14 pin DIL (3), 8 pin TO5 (1).

## Practical two channel switching circuit

The practical two channel switching circuit is shown in Fig. 6 and 7. In Fig. 7 two FETS are used to switch channels 1 and 2 into the summing point of a virtual earth amplifier. Independent shift controls are provided for each channel for trace positioning purposes, while a common gain control allows the total waveform amplitude to be controlled. In Fig. 6 the switching waveforms are generated and Sl allows the operational mode to be selected. This gives the choice of 1 only, 2 only, alternate or chopped.
In the 1 only mode, the bistable IC2 is preset so that Q is a logical 1 with $\bar{Q}$ a logical 0 . Then pin 1 of


A general view inside the finished switching unit.


IC3 will be at a logical 0 and Trl will be on. This makes waveform 1 become +5 volts, turning on $\operatorname{Tr} 3$. Pin 13 of IC 3 will be at a logical 1 and $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ will be off. This makes waveform 2 become -8 volts, turning off Tr 4 . Open collector gates have to be used for IC3 so that Tr 1 and Tr 2 can be held completely off when required.

In the alternate mode bistable IC2 has to be trigsered by the oscilloscope timebase. Most oscilloscopes have an output trigger, but this may need converting by a comparater or limiter to produce a suitable logic compatible signal. In the chopped mode the bistable is switched by the Schmitt trigger oscillator IC1. This oscillator runs at approximately 20 kHz , so that the chopping rate is half this, or 10 kHz .

## Use as a Tone burst generator

Since the two channels are direct coupled, and can be DC shifted individually, the unit is very versatile. Although primarily designed for oscilloscope trace doubling applications, it can also be used as a tone burst generator if same external circuits are available. Tone bursts are extensively used in audio amplifier testing, where their complex waveforms can give a better measure of a system's performance under music conditions than using only sinusoidal or square waveforms.

For example, if required, a sinusoidal tone burst with a rectangular pulse may be generated. A divider chain is synchronised to the sinusoidal clock,


Fig. 8 : Top, general layout of components on Veroboard and, below, underside of board showing wiring and position of Veropins.


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EMI $13 \times 8,3,8$ or 15 ohm EMI $13 \times 8 \mathrm{~d} / \mathrm{c}, 3,8$ or 15 ohm EMI $13 \times 8 \mathrm{t} / \mathrm{tw}, 3,8$ or 15 ohm EMI $13 \times 8$ type 350,8 or 15 ohm EMI $8 \times 5$, cer. mag., 8 ohm EMI $8 \times 5,10$ watt d/c roll surr., 8 ohm EMI $6 \frac{1}{2}{ }^{\prime \prime} 93850,4$ or 8 ohm EMI $5^{\prime \prime} 98132 \mathrm{CP}, 8$ ohm
Elac $9 \times 5$, 59RMIO9 15 ohm, 59 RMII 4 8 ohm
Elac $6 \frac{1}{2}^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{d} / \mathrm{c}$ roll surr., 8 ohm
Elac 6 ! $^{\prime \prime}$ d/cone, 8 ohm
Elac Tweeter TW4 4"
Elac $10^{\prime \prime} 8$ ohm
Fane Pop 100 watt $18^{\prime \prime}$
Fane Pop 60 watt $15^{\prime \prime}$
Fane Pop 50 watt $12^{\prime \prime}$
Fane Pop 25/2 12"
Fane Pop 15 watt $^{\prime \prime} 12^{\prime \prime}$
Fane Crescendo 12A or 12B Fane Crescendo 15 Fane Crescendo 18
Fane 807T $8^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{d} / \mathrm{c}$ roll surr. 8 or 15 ohm Fane $808 \mathrm{~T} 8^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{d} / \mathrm{c} 8$ or 15 ohm Goodmans 8P 8 or 15 ohm Goodmans IOP 8 or 15 ohm Goodmans 12P 8 or 15 ohm Goodmans 15P 8 or 15 ohm Goodmans 18P 8 or 15 ohm Goodmans 12P-D 8 or 15 ohm Goodmans 12P-G 8 or 15 ohm Goodmans I2AX Audiomax 8 or 15 ohm
Goodmans Audiom 100
Goodmans Axent 100
Goodmans Axiom 40
Goodmans Twinaxiom 8, 8 or 15 ohm Goodmans Twinaxiom 10, 8 or 15 ohm Kef T27
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and switches the unit between channels 1 and 2 at a rate lower in frequency than the clock. A pulse generator allows the rectangular pulse to be added into the 2 channel.

## Construction

The two channel switching circuit of Figs. 6 and 7 is built on a piece of veroboard using veroboard pins as anchoring points. A heatsink is fitted to the 5 V voltage regulator which is fed from the +15 V line. Layout and wiring is shown in Fig. 8. The board is fitted to one side of the aluminium box using $l_{2}$ in spacers. The type of socket used may be changed to suit the particular equipment in use.


Photograph D, left, shows output of an amplifier driven by a 100 Hz square wave and a 1 kHz sinusoidal tone burst. Photograph E, above, shows same signals at a slightly higher power level so that clipping occurs. The difference in clipping levels occurs because of the 100 Hz ripple on the power supply which is not synchronised with the tone burst.

Note:-The 3 N138 transistors are supplied with a shorting clip on the leadouts and this clip must be kept in position until the transistor has been completely wired into the circuit otherwise the transistor may be permanently damaged. If it is necessary to remove one of these transistors the clip must be placed on the leadout wires before unsoldering.
The LM309H voltage regulator may be replaced by the later LM309K available from Athena Ltd., 140 High Street, Egham, Surrey for $£ 2 \cdot 48$ inc.

## ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

## IT'LL CELL WELL!

THE classification of cells in the human body is not an easy task. Things called bulk separators are commonly used but these units suffer from the disadvantage that although they can handle a very large number of cells, they cannot separate them into many individual classes. A School of Medicine has come up with a novel use of a laser. The technique is to employ two laser beams which are passed through a fine column or jet of liquid which contains the human cells. The technique has proved successful in classifying rare cells (in addition to the more common ones). These rare cells are barely one thousandth of one per cent $(0.001 \%)$ of the total mass of cells which make up the entire human body. This is one instrument which should, if marketed, cell very well.

## THE LM195

On to the market has come a strange beasty which can only be accurately described as a threeterminal monolithic circuit. It's a power transistor and yet it isn't-if you see what I mean? Well, look at it this way, this device simulates a power transistor but it has a number of features which, claims the manufacturers, makes it more attractive. For example, not only will it protect itself, but it will also protect anything which it is connected to.
Magic number for the device is the LM195. The chip contains some 50 components and the gain is around one million. Power capability is 40 W and the chip is 'blow-up proof" at currents up to 2A. Included in the safety circuitry on the chip are sections which handle or effect current-limiting and thermal shutdown which disconnect the power stage if the current rises above 2A. They will also do this if the chip temperature rises above $165^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

If a conventional power transistor blows it can become a virtual short circuit and can thus pass excessive current and ruin other, often costly components. The LM195 however, becomes an open circuit even if the chip itself is destroyed. With a
switching threshold of 2 V , a switching speed of around 500 ns the device looks very useful for a number of applications. Base input current is $3 / 4 \mathrm{~A}$ over the whole of the voltage input range of $0-42 \mathrm{~V}$. This device is quite remarkable when compared to early power transistors which were happy to melt quietly into diodes at the first sign of trouble.

Power is not only for the lower frequencies. Impatt diodes are currently available which can handle 12 W of peak power at 10 GHz . Others of the silicon mesa type have a similar rating at 16 GHz .

## RADAR CARS

One of the dreams of the boffins is a radar system for motor cars. Late last year, a British company showed a Triumph Pl fitted with a form of radar system. A foreign company has now released details about its approach to the problem. Use is made of pulsed radar principles (this is common to most systems under investigation) because it gives a better performance under bad weather conditions than some other methods.

A small horn antenna under the car bonnet is employed to transmit and receive the beam of radar pulses at around 9 GHz . When the distance between the moving vehicle and an object ahead becomes less than that permissible in terms of safety, an alarm is sounded. As the moving vehicle gets closer to the object, the alarm increases in its intensity.
For those who are thinking about "knocking up" such a system, let's look at the internal circuitry/system within the vehicle. In the arrangement described, a computer is employed (albeit a small one). This makes all the necessary calculations and takes into account the speed of the host vehicle (picked up from a transducer), the speed difference between the object ahead and the host vehicle, the rate of breaking or deceleration of the two.
Before starting his journey, the driver tells the computer what the road conditions are like-icy, wet or dry, etc. The computer can thus make due allowance for these. It also allows about 1.5 seconds for driver
reaction time too. If the driver forgets to tell the computer what the conditions are like then the computer will assume the very worst conditions and proceed accordingly with its calculations. The system is still under development and other workers are also experimenting with various ideas, meanwhile it is the computer between the drivers ears which will have to do the work of obstacle avoidance on the roads.

## SOLAR CELLS

In earlier Hotlines, comment has been made about solar cells. The Plessey Company has managed to achieve efficiencies of some $20 \%$ although these items are still in the laboratory. In a more practical vein, Ferranti Limited are gearing up to produce panels of solar ce!ls which are intended to be offered to the small boat market. The panel of cells will be used to keep the craft's batteries charged. The cells will have a rating of around 14 V at 500 mA in sunlight. Rumoured price is between $£ 100$ and $£ 200$, clearly not a thing to be bought lightly.

## CALCULATORS

Electronic calculators are still making amazing progress. The latest is the HP-65 which does just about everything and could very, very nearly qualify for the title of handheld computer. It will even accept programmed magnetic cards. Diagnostic cards are supplied and thus the user is able to test the calculator quite simply. Individual programs can be made and sent to the manufacturer who will test them if required. Most of the circuitry is located on 12 specially designed l.s.i. chips. Price at the moment is around the £300 mark. However, calculators which sold last year for $£ 60$ are now selling at $£ 25$ so perhaps the average housewife will find herself in the supermarket juggling with cost or even finding exponential creeping into the price of a can of baked beans.
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[^3]
## Guglielmo flartomí 1874-1937

ONE HUNDRED years ago (April 25th, 1874) Guglielmo Marconi was born in Bologna, the younger son of a wealthy Italian landowner, Giuseppe Marconi, and his Irish wife Annie, the daughter of Andrew Jameson, the whiskey distiller from County Wexford in Ireland.

To Guglielmo Marconi must go the credit for seeing the wider possibilities of wireless, of taking it out of the laboratory where pure science had shackled it, and developing practical systems for the benefit of mankind. His work, and that of the brilliant men with whom he surrounded himself in the company he formed, laid the foundations of the electronics industry as we know it today.

From an early age he was interested in science and by his late teens, at his home, the Villa Grifone, he was experimenting with electro-magnetic waves as a communication medium. By the summer of 1895 he had succeeded in transmitting signals over a few yards of space and in August, using an earth and an elevated aerial at both transmitter and receiver, he was able to pass Morse code over $1^{3}{ }_{4}$ miles.

The Italian Government was not greatly interested in Marconi's invention, so in 1896 he came to England where he filed the world's first patent for a system of telegraphy using Hertzian waves. A letter of introduction to William Preece, Engineer in Chief of the


Marconi pictured shortly after his arrival in England(1896).

GPO, led to a series of demonstrations culminating in 1897 in a record transmission across 8.7 miles of the Bristol Channel, where Preece himself was experimenting with inductive methods, with far less success.

The potential of wireless telegraphy was becoming clear and in 1897 the world's first radio company was formed to develop Marconi's apparatus commercially. First called the Wireless Telegraph and Signal Company, it was later renamed Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Company and in 1963, The Marconi Company.

By the end of the century, wireless had been adopted by the British and the Italian Navies, it had spanned the English Channel, it had proved its worth to the mercantile navy as a life saver and Marconi had introduced his system to the USA, where he registered The Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company of America-later to become the Radio Corporation of America (RCA).

One of Marconi's ambitions had been to use wireless as a means of ending the isolation of those at sea, and in 1900 the Marconi International Marine Communication Company was created to work an exclusive licence for all maritime purposes. At this time also he took out his famous Four Sevens patent for tuned coupled circuits.

In 1901, the world's first wireless school opened at Frinton, later transferring to Chelmsford where it still flourishes as Marconi College. This was a vintage year for Marconi. Having achieved communication over 198 miles between the Isle of Wight and the Lizard, he embarked, with the assistance of Dr. J. A. Fleming (Scientific Adviser to the Company), R. N. Vyvyan, G. Kemp and P. W. Paget, on his famous transatlantic experiment. After many vicissitudes he succeeded in receiving, through an earpiece, signals at St Johns, Newfoundland, transmitted from Poldhu, Cornwall. Even at the moment of this, his greatest triumph, some said that he mistook atmospherics for the Morse code " $S$ ". To those doubters it has been pointed out that for long distance communication to have evolved from the system that pushed three faint dots across 2,000 miles is a marvel; had there been no dots, its evolution would have been a miracle. Two months later, signals from Poldhu were recorded on a morse inker on s.s. Philadelphia-2099 miles away-thus dispelling any doubt about his original claim. In December 1902, Poldhu's permanent opposite number was built at Glace Bay.

During the next few years, many important patents were filed, notably those for the magnetic detector, the radio valve developed by Dr. Fleming, and the directional aerial, which was used at Clifden, in Ireland-a station that took over the transatlantic service from Poldhu. In 1909, Marconi shared a Nobel Prize for Physics in recognition of his contribution to wireless telegraphy.
The decade that preceded the First World War also saw the first use of wireless in the air, transmission initially being achieved from a captive balloon and then, in 1910, from an aeroplane flown by J. D. A. McCurdy. It also saw wireless used to assist the capture of the notorious murderer, Dr. Crippen, and to save lives when the ill-fated Titanic foundered.
When war broke out in 1914, the Admiralty at once took over the Marconi radio factory. This, the first in the world, had transferred in 1912 from Hall Street, Chelmsford, to a new, purpose-designed building a mile or so away. The Clifden station and Marconi's operational equipment in Chelmsford and London were also taken over, along with the first long-wave transatlantic wireless station for direct communication with the USA, completed by Marconi during 1914.

The Company, having developed direction-finding techniques before the war, established a chain of stations that were used to devastating effect against enemy Zeppelins, submarines and surface ships, and led, indeed, to the Battle of Jutland. For the Royal Navy's world-wide communications network, the Company built a dozen widely dispersed stations.

Air-to-ground telegraphy was perfected and the difficulties of ground-to-air telephony were overcome by three Marconi engineers, Major C. E. Prince, Capt. H. J. Round and Lt. J. M. Furnival-the last named also supervising the achievement of interplane telephony in 1917.

Marconi himself was commissioned in the Italian Army. He later became heavily engaged on diplomatic work for Italy and after the war was appointed Plenipotentiary Delegate to the Paris Peace Conference.
In 1919, Marconi bought his yacht, Elettra, which he equipped as a laboratory; a Marconi engineer made the first east to west transatlantic telephony transmission; and the embryo of broadcasting took shape in Chelmsford.
In 1920, at Marconi's Works, Nellie Melba gave a song recital for Britain's first advertised public broadcast. Twenty months later the Company was licensed for regular broadcasting and erected the famous 2MT station in an ex-army hut at its Writtle Laboratories. A licence was also granted for the 2LO station in Marconi House, London. Later in 1922, at the instigation of the PMG, Marconi's and five other manufacturers formed the British Broadcasting Company, superseded in 1926 by the British Broadcasting Corporation.
The Marconiphone Company, formed in 1922 to satisfy the demand for domestic receivers, was sold to RCA in 1929 and later merged with two other companies to become EMI, of which Marconi was President.

Meanwhile, the Company supplied the equipment for the BBC's new longwave station at Daventry, which took over the 5XX call sign of an earlier station built at Chelmsford.
Running parallel with the Company's broadcasting activity was Marconi's involvement with the Govern-


Experimental transmitter at Marconi's Che/msford works. It inaugurated the world's first broadcast news service in February 1920.
ment's plan to link the Empire through a wireless communication network. First mooted in 1906, the Imperial Wireless chain contract was awarded to Marconi in 1924, exactly fifty years ago. The first station was opened in 1926 and, in common with all those that followed, used the Marconi-Franklin Beam System-a newly developed, revolutionary form of shortwave directional transmission. The Company too built its own beam stations for communicating with countries outside the Empire.
The success of the Imperial Wireless Chain so threatened the Empire cable companies that, in 1929, at the instigation of the respective governments, their interests were merged with those of the Marconi Company in a new organisation, Cable and Wireless Limited.

This step shattered Marconi's life-long ambition to control an Empire-wide wireless network. Disappointed and in ill-health, he was increasingly drawn to his home in Italy, from which he conducted microwave experiments, installing the first microwave telephone link in 1932, and in 1935 demonstrating principles of radar.
Meanwhile his company in England was advancing the new medium of television, its interests in which it merged with those of EMI to form The MarconiEMI Television Company Limited (later dissolved) whose system was adopted in 1936 by the BBC for the world's first public high definition television service.

In Italy, Marconi's health was deteriorating rapidly. He was taken ill on 19th July, 1937 and died the following day. Of all the tributes that followed, the most impressive, the gesture that was unique, was the closing down for two minutes of wireless stations throughout the world. The "ether" was as quiet as it had been before Marconi.

The years following Marconi's death saw far-reaching changes in the Company that bore his name. After the merger in 1968 of the General Electric Company and the English Electric Company, which had bought The Marconi Company from Cable and Wireless after the war, it became responsible, through its newly created subsidiary, GEC-Marconi Electronics Limited, for the management of all GEC's major capital electronics interests, which at the present time are represented in eight autonomous UK companies and nine overseas subsidiaries.
We would like to extend our thanks to GEC-Marconi Electronics Ltd. for supplying the information used in this article.


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| :--- | :--- |
| 47 |  |
| 47 | 10 V |
| 1 |  | $\begin{array}{lll}47 \mu \mathrm{~F} & 25 \mathrm{~V} & 6 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{p} \\ 47 \mu \mathrm{~F} & 63 \mathrm{~V}\end{array}$

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$220 \mu \mathrm{~F}$
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## $\begin{array}{ll}220 \mu \mathrm{~F} & 16 \mathrm{~V} 8 \mathrm{p} \\ 220 \mu \mathrm{~F} & 63 \mathrm{~V} 21 \mathrm{p}\end{array}$

$\begin{array}{ll}220 \mu \mathrm{~F} & 63 \mathrm{~V} 21 \mathrm{p} \\ 330 \mu \mathrm{~F} & 16 \mathrm{~V} 12 \mathrm{p} \\ 330 \mu \mathrm{~F} & 63 \mathrm{~V} 25 \mathrm{p}\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{ll}330 \mu \mathrm{~F} & 6 \mathrm{~V} 2 \mathrm{p} \\ 330 \mu \mathrm{~F} & 63 \mathrm{~V} 2 \mathrm{p} \\ 470 \mu \mathrm{~F} & 6.4 \vee 9 \mathrm{p}\end{array}$

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## A series of simple transistor projects, using not more than twenty components.

THIS is probably one of the simplest possible indicating timers that can be made using electronic principles. It relies on measuring the voltage developed across a capacitor, $\mathbb{C l}$, that is being charged up towards 6 V through a resistor, R1. The slope of the charge curve follows an exponential function but over the first half of its charging range the slope is reasonably linear and the circuit operates only on this part of the range.
The application the writer had in mind for the device was as a simple darkroom clock for use with an enlarger, but no doubt many other uses could be found for such an instrument.

## Operation

Because silicon transistors are used as a superalpha pair it is necessary to introduce an offset voltage at the input so that even the smallest charge on C1 will display on the meter. This ensures that there is no "dead band" at the bottom end of the meter's scale. The offset is obtained by using two silicon diodes operating under forward bias conditions, D1 and D2. Any voltage at the positive plate of Cl is displayed at the emitter of $\operatorname{Tr} 2$.


Circuit of the electronic timer using a meter to display the time interval.
Due to the extremely high gain of the two transistors very little current is drawn from the capacitor consequently the state of charge can be displayed for a considerable period, even though timing might have stopped with SW1 being opened. There is thus the possibility of using the device as a simple elapsed time meter. At the end of a timing operation the meter has to be reset to zero and this is done by pressing the reset button, SW2, which shorts out the capacitor momentarily.

## $\star$ components list



Layout of circuit on Veroboard. No breaks are necessary in the copper rails.

## Circuit

With the values of R 1 and Cl shown, the timing range for the meter circuit, which actually measures up to 3 volts, is approximately 45 seconds but this can be varied with different values of R1. It is better to calibrate the meter by experiment and VR1 is incorporated to set the maximum reading of the meter to a convenient whole number of seconds, say some multiple of ten, which will make calibration simpler. For best linearity the wiper of VR1 should be kept as near the "earthy" end of the track as possible.

When the capacitor is discharged by SW2 there might still be a small reading on the meter, due to lack of balance in the various offset voltages, but this can be removed by the mechanical "zero set" screw on the meter movement. It is obviously desirable to have a stable power source for the unit so a 6 V zener diode is fitted, running from a 9 V battery. To save expense the zener and R3 can be omitted and the unit run directly from a 6 V lantern battery.

[^4]

NORMAL cassette players cannot be used in the car with much success for three main reasons. These are:-
(1) The output of most portable cassette players is fairly low, in the order of 250.750 mW , which is inadequate for car use.
(2) The internal dry cells, with the player being run at high levels, will rapidly run down.
(3) The audio quality of most popular players, at high volume, leaves a lot to be desired.
This unit overcomes these disadvantages by enabling the player to be powered from the vehicle's 12 V battery as well as boosting the output to a more than adequate level by inclusion of a good quality amplifier.

## THE CIRCUIT

Many of the amplifiers designed for car use are of the class ' $A$ ' variety as a car battery is quite capable of supplying the 500 mA or so quiescent current of a typical $2-3 \mathrm{~W}$ class ' A ' amplifier. How. ever, for low distortion and ample power reserve, it was decided that at least 5 W of audio was needed. For a class ' A ' type this meant up to 1A quiescent current, which was considered excessive even for a high capacity accumulator. Therefore, a class ' $B$ ' type, with much lower quiescent requirements was employed.
The circuit shown in Fig. 1 comprises a conventional four transistor class ' $B$ ' amplifier which will deliver 6 W RMS into a $3 \Omega$ speaker, plus a stabilised supply offering a continuously variable voltage from $0-9 \mathrm{~V}$ at a maximum current of 350 mA . The input to the amplifier, taken from the low-level output of the player, is applied to the base of Tr1, the first audio amplifier. The emitter of Trl obtains its bias from the output pair emitters, thus introducing negative feedback, improving quality and frequency response. This stage is directly coupled to Tr2, the driver stage, which is, in turn, directly coupled to the output pair. The emitter of $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ is connected straight to the supply line, no emitter resistor being necessary due to the low supply voltage.
The small bias required between the bases of Tr 3 and $\operatorname{Tr} 4$ to eliminate cross-over distortion is
provided by R7 in parallel with VR3, which sets the output stage quiescent current. The output is coupled to the loudspeaker by C5, large enough to ensure good bass performance. The stabilised power supply, comprising $\operatorname{Tr} 5$ and $\operatorname{Tr} 6$, provides a 0.9 V output, which can be set by adjusting VR2. The zener voltage of D1 appears across VR2 and it can be seen that any voltage between zero and the zener voltage can be tapped off from the slider to the base of Tr5. The small current taken from VR2 is amplified by $\operatorname{Tr} 5$ and $\operatorname{Tr} 6$, enabling a larger current to be drawn from the emitter of Tr6.

## CONSTRUCTION

The circuit excluding the power transistors, is constructed on a printed circuit board measuring $4^{3}{ }_{4} \times 3^{1}{ }_{2}$ in. This is shown in Fig. 2 full size. Layout of the components on the board is shown in

## components list

| Resistors |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 15k $\Omega$ | R5 | $10 \Omega$ |  | $150 \Omega$ |
|  | 120k $\Omega$ | R6 | 1-2k $\Omega$ |  | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
|  | $47 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R7 | $27 \Omega$ | R10 | $33 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
|  | 2.2ks |  |  |  |  |
| All ${ }_{\text {d }}$ W 10\% |  |  |  |  |  |
| 50k $\Omega$ log VR2 10k $\Omega$ pre-set |  |  |  |  |  |
| Capacitors |  |  |  |  |  |
| C1 | $4 \mu \mathrm{~F} 16 \mathrm{~V}$ | C4 | 4.7nF |  |  |
| C2 | $16 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ 16V | C5 | $1000 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |  |  |
|  | $200 \mu \mathrm{~F} 16 \mathrm{~V}$ |  |  |  |  |
| Semiconductors |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tr1 | BC108 | Tr3 | AD161 |  |  |
|  | BFX88 | Tr4 | AD162 | Tr6 | AD161 |
| Miscellaneous |  |  |  |  |  |
| Si, Single pole on-off. Insulating kits (3) for power transistors. Aluminlum box $6 \times 4 \times 5 \mathrm{in}$. Circuit board $4 \frac{3}{3} \times 3 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. D1, 10 V 400 mW Zener. |  |  |  |  |  |


nuperb solid tate audio hew comiponents throughout. vilicot transistors plus 2 power outuut transistora in push-pull. Full wave rectificaapprox. 13 watta
 $\pm$ 3ib. Fully integrated preamplifier riage with meparate 8-15 ohin speakers. Iuput for ceranic or crystal cartritge. genaltivity approx. 40 mv fur 1 ull out put. Supplert remly built and teated, with knobs, escutcheon panel, input arnl output plugs. Overall size $3^{\prime \prime}$ high $x$ "wite $x 7^{\prime \prime}$ deep. AC $200 / 250 \mathrm{~V}$. PRICE 812.00 . P. \& P. 50 p
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right hand chamels can be adjuated by means of a repa rate 'Balance' control fitted at the rear of the ehassis. Input कensitivity is approximately $300 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{v}$ for full pesk output of 4 watte per chaninel ( 8 watts mono), into 3 ohm speakers. Full negative feedback in a carefully calculated circuit, allow' high volume levels to be usel with neglipible -listortion. Supplied complete wlth knobs. chassiy mize
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Fig. 3. Rectangular-shaped lańds are employed on the board to simplify etching. The board itself is mounted in a $6 \times 4 \times 2^{1}{ }_{2} \mathrm{in}$. chassis with the power transistors mounted on the rear panel. The leads from the terminals are brought out through holes on the rear of the chassis and taken to their respective plugs.
$\operatorname{Tr} 3, \operatorname{Tr} 4$ and $\operatorname{Tr} 6$ must be insulated from the chassis with mica washers. The body of Tr4,
although at negative potential, has to be insulated due to reasons stated later. No heatsink is needed for $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ as it is being run well within its power rating.

It should be noted that the common negative line of the circuit is not connected to the unit chassis. This is to enable the unit to be operated in a positive earth vehicle by merely connecting the positive supply line to the vehicle chassis and connecting


Fig. $3:$ ( above) wiring of $P C B$ to power transistors and volume control.

the common negative to the negative terminal of the battery. The chassis of the unit can then be earthed in the normal manner to the vehicle chassis to provide screening. For a negative chassis vehicle the unit's negative terminal is connected to the car chassis and the supply line to battery positive. If this procedure were not adopted, and the negative line directly earthed, then the circuit described here would be satisfactory for a negative earth car, but if employed in a positively earthed vehicle, $\operatorname{Tr} 3$ and Tr4 would have to be reversed and $\operatorname{Tr} 1, \operatorname{Tr} 2, \operatorname{Tr} 5$ and Tr6 replaced by opposite polarity equivalents. Also D1 and the electrolytics would need to be reversed.

## TESTING THE AMPLIFIER

Before applying power, VR3 should be adjusted to insert MINIMUM resistance between the bases of $\operatorname{Tr} 3$ and $\operatorname{Tr} 4$. A loudspeaker is connected between the negative terminal of C 5 and the common negative line. The power can now be applied whereupon a small thump should be heard from the speaker. An audio signal is fed into the input and VR3 backed off until any distortion just disappears. Do not rotate VR3 any further than is necessary as this will cause the output pair to take a greater current than is required, causing overheating.

Alternatively, a milliammeter may be inserted in the collector of Tr 3 , and VR3 adjusted for a reading of 30 mA with no signal. The amplifier should give clean, good quality output at high levels.

## TESTING THE POWER SUPPLY

A voltmeter is connected between the emitter of Tr6 and the negative line and power applied. On rotation of VR2, voltages of between $0-9 \mathrm{~V}$ should be obtained, the voltage varying linearly with the rotation of the preset. The output voltage should not vary with the battery voltage fluctuations experienced with a vehicle, or by varying load currents. VR2 can now be set so that the output voltage is the same as that required by the particular player which is going to be used with the unit.

## INTERCONNECTIONS

The actual plugs employed to connect the unit to the player depend of course on the make of cassette player employed, a Philips EL3302 being used in the author's installation. Power supply connection to this model is made by a $240^{\circ} 5$-pin DIN plug. On insertion of this plug the internal power source is disconnected. Signal from the recorder/ player is also obtained via a 5 -pin $180^{\circ}$ DIN plug.

Although the input section of the amplifier was designed to handle the output of the Philips unit, it will cope with a wide range of input voltages. If overloading should occur at moderately high settings of the volume control, then Rl can be increased, or, if greater sensitivity is required, reduced.

The unit has been in use for some time in a Landrover (not the quietest of vehicles!) and the quality is very impressive up to high output levels. An advantage of the unit is the ease with which it can be connected and disconnected, no more than two plugs having to be disconnected to enable the player to be used in its normal way.

## IEEESTIOI

## IN THE <br> MAY ISSUE

## OSCILLOSCOPE CALIBRATOR

The usefulness of an oscilloscope is greatly increased if its calibration can be checked periodically: the equipment described enables you to undertake this operation for yourself. The unit uses a crystal oscillator and i.c. dividers to provide the required outputs.

## INTERCARRIER SOUND

The intercarrier sound system gives rise to more reception problems than any other aspect of the 625 -line system. The basic principles and the circuits used will be outlined and guidance given on fault conditions.

## CRT REJUVENATOR

A design which can be used to give a new lease of life to either monochrome or colour CRTs.

## PHILIPS FIELD TIMEBASES

In his next Fault Finding Guide John Law looks at the valve field timebase circuits used from the 152 series up to the 310 chassis, and the faults commonly found.

## ASSEMBLING A COLOUR RECEIVER

In the final part of his series David Robinson describes the most tricky part of the exercise, setting up the signal circuits.

PLUS ALL THE REGULAR FEATURES

Details of the May issue are subject to the current national situation at the time of going to press.

TO
(Name of Newsagent)
Please reserve/deliver the MAY issue of TELEVISION (25p) and continue every month until further notice.

## NAME

## ADDRESS

I

ADBES


## JOSTY KITS

I recently had the chance of trying out a couple of "Josty" kits. They come complete with all components, printed circuit, construction plans and even solder. The instructions are clear and simple and only an elementary knowledge of soldering is required to build the more simple of the units. All the component positions are marked on the p.c. boards so it is difficult to make a mistake.
Josty is a Danish firm but the sole distributors for Great Britain are Radio Supplies Ltd.
Josty kits available range from a simple diode receiver and a windscreen wiper control to an automatic light control and an f.m. tuner.

A book called Amateur Electronics has been produced by the company to complement the kits. The author, Jan Soelbjerg begins with the basic
theory of electronics and progresses through to more complicated designs and advanced theory.

The book comes with a free printed circuit board for 10 of the Josty designs which are described in the

"Amateur Electronics" and the P.C. board.


Two of the "Josty" Kits.
text. Complete kits of parts for these and other constructional projects described in the book are available from Josty.

Amateur Electronics is written in a form of 'programmed instruction' and, although some of the translation leaves something to be desired (I've never heard of the word 'og' in English) it's a good instructional volume for both beginner and more experienced constructor alike.

Further gen and prices are available from Radio Supplies (components) Ltd., P.O. Box 27, Hartlepool, TS24 $7 B R$.

## COMING SOON IN P.W.

JUST when you are probably thinking about holidays, we are too! But we are also thinking about the summer issues of Practical Wireless-and so should you.

We constantly hear that readers require our summer issues when they are sold out, so let us suggest some very good reasons why you should not only buy a copy every month, but make sure by ordering in advance from your newsagent or by writing to our subscriptions department (see contents page).

## TV GAMES

You may have seen those fascinating games in pubs and restaurants where you can play "tennis" electronically with the action displayed on a television screen. Want to know more?

## STEREO TUNER

Are you thinking of building an f.m. stereo tuner?

## COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVER

Do you want a communications receiver?
For more details on these and other projects, stay tuned to P.W.

## YOUR <br> PULL-OUT SUPPLEMENT



Lift staples at centre page
Pull out the Supplement
Cut along centre of pages $\mathbf{A}$
Put pages together again
Fold up along dotted line B


B


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 fou I！！M uo！pels ay！l！ew arefins ueว łeपt みoda」 e u！pəŋsə」əłu！əq
 is not cheap so choose the stations carefully before sending a report． 6u！n！əכa」 te pel！כxa ool fo6 ł，u00 paлamod पб！ч Kıa＾aчł to amos रəчł ！！廿әлә＇suo！lets epuefrdord


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 interesting．Initially the Guide to әq kew＊＊suo！tets 6u！pseopeo＿g sufficient，containing a listing of pue un！pau＇6uol aपł wo suo！̣els pue Kэuanbał $\kappa q$＇səлem Hous

 aq ues 6u！－xa uo no！pewioju found in several monthly mag－ azines．

Fountain Press（Model \＆Allied Publications）Station Road，Kings Langley，Herts．£ 3 post paid．
＊＊Butterworth Ltd．， 88 Kingsway，
London，WC2B 6AB．900 post paid．

N
this random changing of radio Something has changed，again．It is behold！the station is not there！ just to prove the point，lo！and Checking again the next evening， radio waves and caused them to
 few miles． small community over a radius of a which is only meant to serve some somewhere in Central America hears a low power station from wade receiver and 50 feet of aerial But the DX enthusiast with a home－ been surprising if it had not worked！ million miles away．It would have DX although it is over a quarter of a tion system and can hardly be called
 with the moon are the result of a ations，and generally was unex－
plainable．The two－way contacts

 wireless it meant the reception of frequently and in the early days of the lucky one． world of interest will be revealed to ＇$D X^{\prime}$＇listening and a whole new have a new devotee to the art of Practical Wireless asking for help
in identification！If the latter we



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0 Tuning around the medium wave

## NOILONOOYLNI

 layers may split into the E1／E2 and Appleton layer，Fig．1．Each ofthere Heaviside or E layer and the F or principal layers are called the the gases in the layers．The two electrically conductive when subject

## SヨオVM OIOVy

 of almost every station in the world． uo！̣erado to sau！！pue sa！puanbat pue syooq snoluen to dןəч әчł पџ！M jol！sea чэnu кian әpeur aq ues pue Finding one＇s way around the
various bands is not so very difficult being installed or afterwards．

 the aerial is the vital link between
 extra requirement is a reasonable they may not realise it．The main on one or more bands，although

 the different frequency bands and propagated over great distances on by which the radio signals are pastime． pursuit of DX TV a very intriguing but often enough to make the DX－er．Not every day by any means high frequencies（UHF）bands are TV pictures on VHF and the ultra


 ation of DX－ing whether it be

## 

ueam sұuөшəן əఎow＇uoseəд u！ч！！M
 Commercial multi－element aerials
are eminently suitable for FM DX 끙


 affected by unusual propagation so әq of 1 sill ayt aq II！M pueq әपl to puә Mo｜әЧ।＇paq！ the same effects as TV signals，as these frequencies are subject to thousand miles or so．Located
between the TV bands 1 and 3， these frequencies can travel a we regard FM as a local service



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of 88 wiof sund $z$ pueg Wy oul

## XO W」



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 returned to normal for domestic
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 Kouonberf эұешозne чим paly

 both aerials on the same mast．

 uipeu ayt of bulyगums bulyjeas





with modern varicap tuners this is a simple business.

In the process of setting up the equipment it is likely that a picture tou Kisno!nqo s! leqt 'flos amos to pue dn paypid aq II!M' $\wedge 11$ 10 398 the identification chase will be on. All TV stations have test and identification cards, usually with station to əsneseq inq 'sameu yломұәu 10 the common practice of relaying other stations or networks too much credence should not be given to first conclusions.

If a reception report is sent to a distant TV station it should contain plenty of information on the programme content, plus other information seen or heard which will assist the station in confirming the report. The DX-TV-er's 'bible' is Long Distance Television by Roger Bunney obtainable from Weston Publishing, 33 Cherville Street, Romsey, Hants SO5 8FB for 55p postpaid. It can be thoroughly DX TV.
(see Table of Systems), regardless of whether the signal is on VHF or UHF. This can usually be done by alterations to the switch wafers. Since some of the DX signals may only be present for a short time it is
 capable of very fast synchronisation
 able a set with 'flywheel' sync should be chosen, with this end in
 osןe I!! $\operatorname{la!!!|dure~II~pue~saseqaw!~}$

 found to be easier with some sets than others.

It is likely that a turret tuner will be fitted for VHF so this can be fully utilised by fitting additional coil units for the empty channels. These can be for Band 1, Band 2(TV) and Band 3 depending upon requirements. On UHF the dozens of channels available make the usual four station push-button selector
something of a joke to the DX-er! Continuous tuning is a must and
broadcasting stations to change the constant reminder by our local
broadcasting stations to change action with the ground wave．Hence tion of the signal due to its inter－ the sky wave causing severe distor－ the skip distance can become nil of the transmitter．At night however constitutes the normal service area wave is extended much further and punoab әчł sөлем wnipaw әчł чо from the station concerned． signals being heard in this area ou＇，əouets！p d！ys，aut se umouy
 The distance between the end of and position of the sunspot cycle． frequencies involved，time of year but much would depend upon the the daytime and the $F$ layer at night， reflected by，usually，the E layer in signal goes upwards before being short wave stations．The main upon the frequency，in the case of Fig．1，after 20 or 30 miles depending wave which follows the surface of All transmitters have a ground

GROUND WAVE
communications． of all short wave long distance
 tions on the sun，called sunspots，
 tinuous ionisation，they can remain
reflective throughout the 24 hours． mer，being subject to almost con－
tinuous ionisation，they can remain becomes impossible．In the sum－ their reflecting powers and DX

 and other factors．During the dark

 are capable of reflecting radio


sequent chapters．
 appropriate to the various frequency The DX modes of transmission many hundreds of miles．
 pressure areas，the troposphere days，usually associated with high our atmosphere up to a height of troposphere which is that part of missions over long distances is the propagation of VHF and UHF trans－ A very important factor in the

## TROPOSPHERE

 sun＇s effect on it goes at sunset． from medium wave stations．The Dlayer disappears as soon as the for absorbing any upward radiation
from medium wave stations．The D hours when it is mainly responsible which exists only during daylight
 phenomenon of＇fading＇．


 together or subtract from each the received signal will consist of is reflected from a layer means that the way in which it penetrates and signal is in reality a diverging signal seen that since the transmitted propagation conditions．It will be research laboratories to predict frequency，in relation to a vertically
transmitted signal，is used by radio ceases and the signal is lost．This
frequency，in relation to a vertically quency is reached when reflection reflection decreases until a fre－ creases penetration increases and is then reflected depends upon its
frequency．As the frequency in－ radio signal penetrates a layer and

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Group A Colo
Channels 39 to 53 －：Кן groups currently available commer－ by a choice of aerials from the three pesanoo aq ues spueq $\lrcorner \mathrm{H} \cap 2 \mathrm{Y} \perp$


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newcomer to look for，for encour－

 on 950 kHz ，CFRB Toronto 1010 kHz ， WABC New York City 770kHz， WOR New York 710 kHz and many

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## MIDWINTER

The afternoons in midwinter are
 just before the invasion by the European stations via the E layer． ssaj ou sasn zНчоعLl uo e»nગeว

 u！jnqе्र＇zHY09L uo pepчбея
 Iraq on 841 kHz ，not bad DX for the
medium waves！

дечм＇ә！！əәdе әчұ рәдәчм биилен of papaəu s！juamd！nba to मos











 account of themselves．Of course，a
communication class receiver is

ヨヘナM Wniagw
spuәұхә pueq әлем ши！рәш әч। L8L of LLS 10 ZHYG091 of gzs wod


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 the speech or music in parts of the service area．

## LHOIN IV

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pue $\forall$ Sn ayt woy sjeub！s kueu
bean area．Station CJON at St．
pressure areas when clear skies at night allow the earth to give up its heat quickly to the upper atmos－ phere thus creating an＇inversion＇
 ssew дие әчł fo ұечł иечł дамо！

 ally bent more and more as it passes through the troposphere and it can eventually be returned to earth， Verhaps a thousand miles and UHF signals are affected
 sional interference experienced by




 to the exclusion of other signals originating along the path．

 complicated or expensive as might at first be imagined．While high gain

 around Europe．The main problem

‘ра ғо sэ！иечгәш әиł и！ебе әәио ＇рәəеб！！
 nel designations are given in the －odd eq ues sjeub！s $\downarrow$ pueg selqe」 sueәu $\AA q$ sәכuets！ 6uol pəze6ed

 reasons that are not too well under－ uо！̣es！uol əsuetu！to seyวted＇poots


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 uo！qdәәad xalie әy！u！ebe soppet
 that provides the excitement！

The passage of meteors through the Elayer also causes local ionisa－
 $10+$ К｜uo $\mathfrak{i n q}$ speubis $\wedge \perp \varepsilon$ pue $\downarrow$ pueg
 measured in seconds．
As we approach the minimum of the sun＇s 11 year sunspot cycle the signals via the upper Flayer is mini－ mal but at sunspot peaks Band 1 TV signals，such as BBC1 on 45 MHz ，have been received as far
 （чinos pue）чдои әчң te ки！！ipe
 VHF TV signals．

The last DX TV mode of propa－ gation to be discussed is perhaps weather charts on domestic TV are closely watched by the DX stalwart
who looks for approaching high
9
than half a wavelength this aerial any down lead．As the length is less about 100 to 150 feet long including The aerial for MW ought to be wave DX－ing and generally repre－ excellent for both medium and short receivers of the AR88 type are snjdıns ұиәшиләлоэ－хヨ＇ләл！əәәл ио！ңет！ипишол e 6u！sooys ио short wave listening for information uo uo！pjes ayt 아 dejay XO әपł
 much better mainly because of the

unwanted signal．Maximum dis－ of minimum pick－up is towards the the loop is rotated so that the line pue 8 ann matters．The loop aerial＇s pick－up to unwanted signal that really
 on those obtainable with the outside the signal strengths will be down leave the wanted station．Naturally to null out an unwanted station and

 properties．The seasoned DX－er will әА！
 әләум sıoјe｜nsu！pooб as $\cap$＇uәsoyo
 to łued se pepunos 6u！əq дөл！әэə」 ачł оł ац！
 fous e lof adues aчt wou spsem －имор Kןfeэ！ ueaq sey $1!$ deye unu！u！u e of jday

 － －jead aq kew 8 ＇ $6!y$ to opod！p pueq as in Fig． 7 from the dimensions single band only may be constructed
 wires． әuoudejot 10 ou！l Kiddns Jemod Kue jeəu do дәло әд！M ןelcae ue
 is a must whatever length is chosen． in the circumstances，but the ATU əq！ssod s！se प反！！se pue buol se nothing magic about 132 feet so it

$7 \forall N S I S-X \forall W$

station so that it can be easily found again．With a communication type receiver the existing calibration ought to be quite accurate but if a new station＇s frequency is to be measured the crystal calibrator will provide two marker points 10 kHz apart from which the frequency can be estimated to a kHz or so．

## SHORT VAVE

 әлем ночs әчł of дәшоэмәи әчł bands will，understandably，be a little hesitant to spend a lot of is not quite sure what he is really looking for．He ought to go for a communication receiver but unfor－ tunately there are a number of so－
 market which do not，in fact，meet the accepted specification for this type of equipment．They are only glorified all－band domestic re－ ceivers lacking several of the essen－ tial features of a proper communica－ tion receiver．

Short wave receivers fall into two general categories，those with con－ tinuous coverage across all the short wave bands，（see the Tables） including the amateur bands，from about 1.5 MHz to 30 MHz in a number of switched ranges and those in－ tended for use on the amateur

 lar band，typically $1 \cdot 8,3 \cdot 5,7,14,21$ and 28 MHz ．The newcomer will be孔sespeoдq әчł u！pełserəұu！әлои
 receiver is likely to be his first choice．

The following points should be considered when weighing up the
crimination will occur when the lines in the direction of the two


 The receiver should be connected
 copper rod or tube driven a few feet into the soil，the connection being made with heavy copper wire which ul əp！ssod se fous se aq pinoys อч7 to 6u！d！d peə әuł 7 sed әuł SEM шәұsイs дәңем рןos э！sowop
 s！fse｜d to кepot әsn peordsepiM әप pə！！ə」 әq دə6uol ou ueכ s！$\ddagger \ddagger$ Bu！d！d


## CALIBRATION

ț it is important that the receiver，if of the domestic type，should be calibrated fairly accurately and this may be done by first sticking a strip Buope pses u！ the length of the dial and marking it Initially the reference points can be
 picking those that have a frequency zsedepng se yons sıaquinu punoıu！ ＇（009）zHYZ09 suof7＇（0tG）zHY6ЕG
 Munich 800 kHz ，Milan 899 kHz （900） and so on．Mark the reference әपł fo pua auo woł zHy u！słulod







 the dial as well as permitting the recording of the frequency of a new


## －

three，element wire beam，Fig．6， which is not so impossible＇wing－ may seem considering the＇wowever it will tend to be quite directional unless a bi－directional beam is made，which will not be any more difficult．

An outside aerial will be a big improvement on all the short wave bands especially if it can be made about 132 feet long which will be around half wave long on the 80 metre band．Again，an ATU will be highly desirable to take maximum advantage of the aerial．Install the wire as high as possible taking advantage of any trees or buildings to act as supports．The wire may be horizontal or sloping，the final lead－


than the desired half wave then the ATU will make up the length elec－ trically and this it can do over all the short wave spectrum，Fig． 3. electrically noisy location is shown in Fig． 4.

A vertical rod aerial mounted on an insulator can be fitted to an out－ side window ledge and joined to
 signal pick－up being approximately the same from all directions．A half wave horizontal wire will have maximum response from stations at right angles to the line of the wire． When conditions favour the $10 / 11$ metre bands during periods of high


$\infty$ switched for USB or LSB. An alténmay be crystal controlled and position for these modes. The BFO guide, and no more, to the correct lower (LSB) sideband and the BFO missions use either upper (USB) or if a stable BFO is fitted. SSB trans bands and this can only be resolved phony is widely used on all amateur especially useful on the amateur (CW) or Morse code signals, the reception of continuous wave

 minimum coverage to aim speaking, 3.5 to 26 MHz is the bands, 90 and 120 metres, can be


 2. Adequate Frequency Covercient bandspread.

 Another bandspread system uses a
direct mechanical reduction drive with the main tuning capacitor.
Another bandspread system uses a

 poses. This permits the rapid return
to a particular station or frequency.
 may be calibrated for each band or ranges while the bandspread dial travel. The main dial will be cali-
brated for each of its switched spreading the band over most of its
travel. The main dial will be caliband, a separate 'bandspread' dial which is adjusted to the end of a easier tuning. Bandspread is often the frequency range to permit 1. Adequate Bandspread or the
ability to 'stretch' out any part of pros and cons of a particular short
wave set:-
most important characteristic of a
 remain fairly constant but may fall other. The noise level should tune from one end of a band to the reasonable background level and range. Disconnect the aerial and
turn up the RF gain control for a ably constant over any one switched that the sensitivity remains reasonreceiver but it is important to check lacking in a decent communication weak signals is not likely to be 4. Sensitivity or ability to resolve Insertion Oscillator, is sometimes


| ** 둦둦 <br> , $\omega$ <br> 8 <br> 8 <br> 8 <br> 8 <br>  $888888^{\circ}$ <br>  <br>  |  |
| :---: | :---: |


 stations the carrier is used to carried out over quite wide bands tseכpeorq ч! M Cuipet of onp кile


7. AGC Circuits are designed to be encountered.

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 a separate audio volume control. minimum of an RF gain control and 6. Gain Controls must include a -рәнәлбә」 әq ләләи І!м pue pay!?sn!

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 OOt tou s! zHOOS әшәдхә дәчłо





[^5]

One of the most popular features in any discotheque is the psychedelic multicolour light display. This unit will handle up to 250 watts of lighting on each of three channels, pulsing in time with the bass, middle and treble notes.
By taking advantage of the higher amplifier power which is available in most discos, this constructional project employs simplified circuitry and avoids the use of difficult-to-get specialised components, so often a problem in these days of shortages.


## Car Radio Design

Following a brief description of the history of the car radio,general information is given on a practical up-to-the-minute design. Just two IC's are used, simplifying the construction.


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## PART 7-GROUNDED EMITTER AMPLIFIERS

## Continued from the April issue

Instead of deriving our bias from the collector of the transistor in question we can, as is shown in Fig. 49, directly couple the collector of the first transistor to the base of an emitter follower. Because the voltage at $B$ follows that at A (apart from the forward voltage drop of Tr2's base emitter junction) there is clearly no difference if we decide to take our bias source as point $B$. It may not be clear, at this stage, why one should wish to introduce an apparently redundant stage but there is a very good reason. We have deliberately reduced the value of the feedback resistors so that the potential at B is quite a lot below midrail-it should be at about 1 to 1.5 V . This is necessary for what is to follow.

We can connect up a microphone exactly as before and introduce a feedback decoupling capacitor as shown in Fig. 51. By measuring the amplified a.c. signal at the emitter of $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ you should see a signal comparable to that obtained from the single stage of Fig. 52. Th is would appear quite natural because we have only introduced an emitter follower. However we can go a step further as shown in Fig. 53. Any current flowing through R2 of the emitter


Fig. 49: Bias is derived from the output of the emitter follower.
follower must (in the main) have come from the collector circuit so if we introduce a resistor in the collector circuit of Tr 2 we should see voltage swings across it. The value of R 3 has to be carefully chosen so that there is sufficient scope for a symmetrical voltage swing about the quiescent voltage of the collector. We can now remove the feedback decoupling capacitor we previously used and substitute a much higher value capacitor between the emitter of $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ and ground (C1). At the same time we can drop one of the feedback resistors. This serves two purposes; Cl prevents feedback of signal to the base of Tr 1 and allows any a.c. component of current flowing through R1 to pass readily into the base circuit of Tr 2 . In the absense of a.c. the biasing of the circuit is unaffected. By enhancing the a.c. component of base current into $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ we can get quite high voltage swings at its collector; in fact almost


Fig. 50: Component layout for Fig. 49.
identical to those obtained from the previous two stage amplifier (Fig. 47). Notice, however, that there is a considerable saving in components. One advantage of deriving the bias in this way should now be clear.

Just as before, we can add on a current amplifying stage and produce an intercom amplifier having very similar characteristics to those we have already obtained (Fig. 55). It is still necessary to incorporate a degree of frequency correction with C4 across R4. You can experiment with different values to determine what effect $C 4$ will have on the overall performance of the amplifier. Values should be in the range of $2,200 \mathrm{pF}$ to $33,000 \mathrm{pF}(0 \cdot 033 \mu \mathrm{~F})$. The capacitor in this case is not introducing feedback (because all a.c. signals on the bias line have already been removed by C1); it is simply "slugging" the microphone and hence attenuating high frequency signals at source. Because of the high output impedance of the microphone it will have a much more dramatic effect on all frequencies in the spectrum but will reduce the amplitude of higher ones more than lower ones. Negative feedback, of a frequency selective nature, could be provided by a small value capacitor (say $2,200 \mathrm{pF}$ ) between the collector of $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ and its base; try this as an alternative.


Fig. 51 : The signal level at Tr2's emitter is comparable to that produced by the circuit of Fig. 45.


Fig. 52 : Component layout for Fig. 51.


Fig. 53 : The voltage gain of this circuit is similar to the first two stages of Fig. 47 but uses fewer components.


Fig. 54 : Component layout for Fig. 53.
Although we have economised on components we still have not improved our degree of control over the voltage gain of the amplifier-it is still controlled by the transistors' parameters.

To produce a circuit that has a voltage gain virtually independent of the transistors' parameters we have to introduce a form of negative feedback. Apart from the frequency selective feedback we have just mentioned there is no other feedback in the circuit of Fig. 55 that controls the signal. There is, of course, feedback associated with the bias stabilisation but we have by-passed this as far as signal is concerned with C1. The simplest way to provide negative feedback that is not frequency selective is to use two extra resistors as in Fig. 57. These are R2 and R8. We have introduced a tendecy to making Trl an emitter follower so the voltage at point A will follow any signal at the transistors' base.

Say the a.c. signal at the base was to rise in a positive direction the potential at $\mathbf{A}$ will also rise to match it-thus trying to keep the base current in its original quiescent state. However, with the value of R2 it cannot track exactly and there is bound to be some variation in base current due to the a.c. signal. The mere addition of R2 reduces the
gain of the first stage because of this interaction (a form of negative feedback) but the attenuation should not be too great. We can, however, take the considerably amplified-and phase reversed-signal at point $B$ (collector of Tr 2 ) and use this to provide current into the emitter circuit of Trl via R8. Because of the phase reversal this current will negate the base current. By adjusting the value for R 8 we can inject more or less of this opposing current; the higher the current the more negative feedback we get for our signal and hence the lower the overall gain of the amplifier.

We call the raw gain of the two stage amplifier of Fig. 55 the open loop gain because no feedback is applied. Provided the open loop gain is very high there is a simple relationship that controls the voltage gain of the amplifier shown in Fig. 57; the gain is approximately equal to R8 divided by R2. Thus to make a high gain amplifier with no feedback use the circuit of Fig. 55 but to have the refinement of an amplifier having slightly less, but controllable, gain use the feedback circuit of Fig. 57. For example make $\mathrm{R} 8=22 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ and the voltage gain of the circuit is approximately 44 ; change R 8 to $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ and you slightly more than halve its former


Fig. 55: This circuit has almost identical performance to that of Fig. 47 but is much more economic on components. Its gain, however, is uncontrolled and unpredictable.
gain. As before you can introduce a frequency selective element to compensate for the rising gain with frequency for the crystal microphone by introducing C4 across R8. Start with $2,200 \mathrm{pF}$; the more capacitance you introduce the more you will attenuate the higher frequencies.

If you do not use C4 you can introduce a variable feedback control that will act as a volume control. Substitute a $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ fixed resistor and a $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ potentiometer in series for R8.

When making up the circuit of Fig. 57 note that we are now using a super alpha pair to drive the loudspeaker. This is to prevent the quiescent potential at $B$ being influenced by the load of the output stage; this is obviously necessary because we are relying very much on the potentials at point $B$ being what we expect! If wired up on Veroboard this circuit forms a very useful general purpose low power microphone amplifier for intercom or other domestic purposes.

## Further thoughts

It is worth pausing a little to compare the simple feedback biased single transistor stage (last month) and the feedback pair. Obviously this month's circuit is somewhat more complex and hence more expensive to build so what are the pros and cons of the two alternatives we have come across so far?

The simple answer is 'predictability of the performance". This includes both the overall gain and frequency response. The single stage can have a very high gain and this is set by the $\mathrm{h}_{\mathrm{FE}}$ of the transistor together with the values of input and output impedance. Whether one is more interested in voltage gain or power gain one can juggle with the component values to give predominantly one or the other within reasonable limits. To some extent the frequency response can be controlled by the introduction of high frequency "roll off" capacitors between the bias feedback resistor chain and ground. So why bother to introduce the complexities of this month?

The problem is that one cannot ever be too certain what the $\mathrm{h}_{\mathrm{FE}}$ of the transistor is going to be (in this series we are using mainly BCl 08 devices and in this single type number one can buy devices having gains ranging from 100 to 400). Hence the absolute gain of the single stage amplifier-which is proportional to the transistor's $\mathrm{h}_{\mathrm{FE}}$-is going to be pretty undefinable unless one is able to select a device with a precise gain. This is, obviously, not a practical


Fig. 56: Component layout for Fig. 55.


Fig. 57: A refined version of Fig. 55. The gain is set by the ratio of R8 with R2. R4 has a different value to increase the quiescent potential at Tr2's collector and a super alpha pair is used to drive the speakerreducing the load on Tr2.
of course, always be considerably less than the "open loop" gain of the two stage circuit but this is usually no hardship. Thus, if one was using a magnetic cartridge (capacitively coupled to the base of Tr through a capacitor having a very low reactance compared with the output impedance of the cartridge) that gives an output voltage of, say 20 mV at 1 kHz , one could calculate the precise ratios of the feedback resistors to give a predictable output voltage of 100 mV . In this case the gain required is 50 so the resistor ratio should be 50 to 1 . Notice that we have stipulated the frequency because, of course, the output from a magnetic cartridge increases as frequency


Fig. 58 : Component layout for Fig. 57.
proposition. Just try going into a shop asking for a BC108 having a gain of exactly 165 and see the response from over the counter! On second thoughts perhaps you had better not! Having unpredictable gain means that you can never be sure that the circuit is going to be biased exactly mid rail and the result of this might mean that signals of one polarity are clipped by the transistor "bottoming" (going into full conduction) or "topping" (going completely out of conduction). Another effect from the same cause is that some transistors will give a very high output signal for a given input while others will give less. If you are making a preamplifier to go between a pick-up and a power amplifier that needs as input of 100 mV for maximum output you can see that there could be problems. Admittedly this can be compensated for, to some extent, by the use of a volume control but one would hardly describe the amplifier as being of good design. Worse than this, though, there is the chance of never getting maximum power out on the one hand or overdriving the output stage of the power amplifier with horrible consequences to the output transistors!

This month's "feedback pair" circuit enables one to set the gain of the amplifier to a precise valuecontrolled solely by the ratio of feedback resistor to the emitter resistor of Trl. The controlled gain must,
increases (by approximately a factor of $2-$ or 6 dB per octave). This, however, is no problem because we can compensate for this and provide a "flat" output response by introducing a frequency selective component (or components) between the collector of Tr 2 and the emitter of Tr 1 . This would take the form of a simple R C network that increases the amount of negative feedback by 6 dB per octave to neutralise the rising response of the cartridge. Obviously care has to be taken in calculating component values-particularly when meeting certain rigid specifications such as the RIAA law-but this is not a major problem. A simple magnetic cartridge preamplifier and equaliser can be made from our basic circuit by replacing R8 with a $150 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor in series with a $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor and a $0 \cdot 022 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor across the $150 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ device with $0 \cdot 0068 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ across the $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. The $150 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor goes to Tr 2 collector.

A similar technique can be used to compensate for the low frequency losses associated with connecting a crystal cartridge to Tr 1 . In this case the losses at low frequency are caused by mismatching the high output impedance of the crystal with the medium input impedance of Trl. The output signal from a

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## The Circuit

This uses two IC's and a transistor, see Fig. 1. ICl is the popular ZN414 "front end" network. The input is tuned by VCl , and the ferrite rod aerial Ll gives a frequency coverage of approximately 550 1600 kHz . After r.f. amplification and demodulation in this IC, its audio output is taken to the audio gain control VR1. This has R2 in parallel, as small edgeoperated potentiometers of the correct value to use alone here are not readily available.

The voltage for ICl is derived from the potential divider R5, R3 and VR2. The $250 \Omega$ pre-set resistor VR2 and R3 in series give a combination which can be adjusted from 470s) (R3 alone) to $720 \Omega$ (with VR2 at maximum value). This allows easy setting of working conditions for the IC. Though a nominal voltage of about 1.3 V is usually satisfactory, changing the potential of the supply by even $0 \cdot 1 \mathrm{~V}$ can have quite an effect on results. VR2 thus allows compensation for the tolerances in the actual values of R3 and R5

Tr 1 is a high gain audio amplifier, which supplies IC2 through C5. This IC has six transistors in a driver/push-pull circuit, with compensatory diodes, and a low standing current of only about 3.5 mA . Its maximum output is up to about 250 mA with a 9 V supply and $16 \Omega$ speaker, which is easily sufficient for this type of receiver. By using a speaker of higher impedance, peak current is reduced, without much significant loss of maximum volume.

There are no alignment or similar adjustments, which helps to make the receiver a very straightforward project. It is completely portable, using a PP3 or similar small 9V battery.

## Circuit board

This is shown in Fig. 2. It should be cut so that it is a proper fit inside the case used. Approximately $2 \times{ }^{5}$ in. is cut away to take the battery, and $1 \times{ }_{16}{ }_{16} \mathrm{in}$. for VCl. A hole about $l^{1}$ gin. in diameter is cut to clear the magnet of the speaker.

As the board and case must fit correctly, it is as well to prepare both at the same time. VRl is secured to the board with a small bolt, as in Fig. 2. A slot is cut in the end of the box or case, to clear this control. A clearance hole should also be drilled for the spindle of VCl , and two holes for the short 6BA bolts which secure this item.

An opening for the speaker can be cut, and subsequently covered with silk or similar material. Or a number of holes can be drilled to form a grille. The opening, or area covered by the holes, should be approximately the same size as the loudspeaker cone. When the case is finished, the speaker is fixed with adhesive.

The transparent box actually used was approximately $4^{1} 2 \times 3 \times 1 \mathrm{in}$. inside dimensions, but provided the parts can be accommodated there is no reason why this size should be used. Though boxes of this kind are reasonably strong, the material can be easily cracked when drilling or filing. To avoid this, use a sharp drill, and work with quite light pressure.

With the receiver shown, the front and sides of the box were covered with a single piece of silken material, fixed with adhesive round the edges only, and drawn tight. The lid of this box was completely removable, and formed the back. This section was left uncovered. When a clear, transparent box of this kind is used, it can if preferred be painted inside. This requires a household or similar oil paint. If
applied with a soft brush, the appearance from the outside will be completely uniform.

When it is assured that the board will fit as in Fig. 2, with VR1 coming into position and projecting through the slot, the components can be added and wired. The board fits the case so that it does not have to be secured with screws or other means.

## Components

Place these as in Fig. 2, noting the correct polarity of the electrolytic capacitors. It may be preferred to wire one or two as they are fitted, or to put them all in place, then turn the board over, and complete most of the wiring. The projecting wire ends can be spread out, to hold the components in place until they are soldered.

Fig. 2 also shows the underside of the board. Add insulated sleeving wherever necessary, and cut off excess leads.
The slider of VR2 is connected at one end by a short piece of thin flex, to allow adjustment. A small rotary pre-set is equally suitable. If a fixed resistor were to be used, with no provision for adjustment, it would be $680 \Omega, 5 \%$. It would replace R3, and be connected from C 3 positive to C 3 negative.

## The IC's

Fig. 2 shows the connections to the IC's. Spread the $I N$ and OUT leads of IC1, and bring the E lead in line between them, so that the three wires pass through the holes. Check that all leads are clear of each other, and solder.

IC2 has two long and two short tags, with a marked end for tags 1 and 2 . The tags will fit the board as in Fig. 2. Leads are soldered to them.

Trl is fitted in a similar way, its wires being arranged to come through the holes as shown.

Prolonged heating must be avoided when soldering these items, and it should only be necessary to

## components list

\section*{Resistors <br> 

## Capacitors

| C1 | 0.01 F |
| :---: | :---: |
| C2 | $0 \cdot 1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
| C3 | $\sim 6 \mu \mathrm{~F} 2.5 \mathrm{~V}$ |
| C4 | $0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
| C5 | $2 \cdot 5 \mu \mathrm{~F} 6.4 \mathrm{~V}$. |
| C6 | $0.02 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |
| C7 | $200 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ 6.4V |
| C8 | $100 \mu \mathrm{~F} 10 \mathrm{~V}$ |
| VC1 | Jackson Dilemin 300pF single variable |
| Tr1 | BC109 |
| IC1 | ZN414 |
| IC2 | MFC4000B (C.T. Electronics, see advert) |

2tin. miniature speaker, 16 to $75 \Omega$ impedance.
Ferrite rod approx. $4 \frac{1}{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{in}$. x $z_{\mathrm{z}}^{\mathrm{in}}$. diameter, 26 s.w.g. enamelled wire, Veroboard, Plastic box, Knob.
keep the iron in contact with the joint for a second or two.

## Ferrite Rod Aerial

This is approximately $4^{1}{ }_{4} \mathrm{in}$. long, and has 65 turns of 26 s.w.g. enamelled wire, side by side. One layer of fairly stout paper is put on the rod, and the winding is on this. It is possible to slide Ll on the rod, to modify band coverage, but this should not be necessary if the winding begins about ${ }_{4}{ }_{4}$. from the end of the rod.


Fig. 1: Circuit of the Mini-Pop.


Fig. 2: Component layout and wiring. The circuit board is 0:15in. matrix plain Veroboard.

## Adjustment

Results should be satisfactory with VR2 set at about its middle position. The potential across C3, as measured with a high resistance voltmeter, should be about 1.2 V to 1.6 V .
If the voltage is a little low, the receiver is likely to be lacking in sensitivity and volume. On the other hand, if the voltage is too high, whistles may arise at some frequencies, when tuning. The adjustment,
and exact voltage, is by no means critical. Should VR2 be re-adjusted to compensate for a discharging battery, remember to move it back to its original position when fitting a new battery.

The ferrite aerial is directive, and this may prove of advantage, either to bring up the volume of a weak signal, or to help reduce interference from an unwanted transmission. Though a $16 \Omega$ speaker is recommended for IC2, it is quite practicable to use a speaker of up to $75 \Omega$ impedance.

## EXPERIMENTAL WORKSHOP <br> -continued from page 53

cartridge (off load) is in the order of 100 mV so, in theory, no extra gain is needed. Because of the mismatch one would only expect to get that sort of signal at high frequencies and considerably less at low frequencies. Hence we need to tailor the response of the pre-amplifier to have approximately unity gain at high frequencies and high gain at the bottom end of the spectrum. This is very easily accomplished by replacing R 5 witll a high value capacitor (in the order of $10 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ) in series with a $4 \cdot 7 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor. It might be necessary-at the same time-to attenuate the signal from the crystal cartridge with a potential divide circuit prior to capacitively coupling it to the base of Trl.
These examples are just a couple of suggestions
to show the versatility of the feedback pair. Although the single stage can give very good results, if you are lucky, the extra cost of the two stage circuit almost guarantees perfect results every time.

Next month we shall deal with the potential divide technique for biasing a transistor together with the grounded base amplifier.
(To be continued)

## DRY BATTERY CHARGER

(MARCH'74 ISSUE)
The author has drawn our attention to the charging current levels which were given in the table on page 1058. These should have read as follows:

```
U2 50mA (min) 150mA (max)
U7 25mA (min) 100mA (max)
U11 25mA (min) 100mA (max)
```



## PART 3



Fig. 14: Circuit of the Stereo Decoder using a phase-locked loop Integrated circuit.

## DECODER BOARD (UNIT 4)

The stereo decoder section is designed around the RCA phase locked loop decoder, CA3090Q. This integrated circuit features low distortion, automatic stereo switching, a stereo beacon driver stage and requires only one tuning coil making alignment simple. An improved version, the CA3090AQ, is expected to be available in the near future. This offers improved stereo separation and lower noise, and may be used in this circuit without any other alteration to components.

De-emphasis of the audio signals is provided by R4/C9 and R5/C10, whilst resistors R6 and R7 are fitted to ensure that the volume level when switched to FM is comparable with that from other programme sources. Transistor $\operatorname{Trl}$ is used to switch the stereo indicator beacon, an LES lamp mounted in a small push-on holder which locates onto a tab provided on the dial backplate.


A view of the completed Stereo Decoder board.


## FRONT PANEL

The front panel is made from 3 mm perspex sheeting. The prototype design incorporated two dial plates as shown in the layout drawing, Fig. 16. Some constructors may prefer to dispense with dials and associated drives. An alternative circuit giving preselected FM tuning appeared in Fig. 11. A 4-way pushbutton switch could then be mounted on the front panel in place of the dials. This is a matter of individual taste, as indeed may be the complete panel layout. It is important, however, that the general control positioning is followed since vastly differing layouts could lead to hum or instability problems.

When supplied, the perspex lias a protective paper covering on each side and this is used to mark out the panel and also to mask areas for indicator lights and dials (shown shaded in Fig. 16) when the panel

## * components list

| DECODER BOARD |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Resistors |  |  |
| R1 $390 \Omega$ |  | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R2 $470 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |  | $5 \cdot 6 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R3 $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |  | $5.6 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R4 10k $\Omega$ | All | W 5\% carbon film |
| Capacitors |  |  |
| C1 $0.22 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ polyester | C7 | $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ polyester |
| C2 3300 pF polyester | C8 | $0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ceramic |
| C3 $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ polyester | C9 | $0.022 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ polyester |
| C4 $0.47 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ polyester | C10 | $0.022 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ polyester |
| C5 $25 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ PC mtg. | C11 | $0.15 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ polyester |
| C6 $250 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ | C12 | $0.15 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ polyester |

## Semiconductors

Tr1 BC158
IC1 CA3090Q (RCA) (see text)
Miscellaneous
L1 Toko YXNS-30450-NK. LP1 14V LES
Printed circuit board Lampholder LES push-on

## POWER SUPPLY

R1 $\quad 1.5 \Omega 5 \mathrm{~W}$ wirewound
C1 $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F} 250 \mathrm{VAC}$
C2, C3 $2500 \mu \mathrm{~F} 40 \mathrm{~V}$
D1-D4 44001 (RCA) or 1 N4001
T1 240V: 25V 1.2A Drake Transformers Ltd., Cat. 294-140 (see note)
S1 SPST 250V 5A toggle switch with long dolly F1 1A fuse with holder
N1 Neon indicator 240 V
NOTE: Equivalent mains transformers are manufactured by:
Colne Electric Ltd., Cat. 20043
Gardners Transformers Ltd., Cat. GR97183

## REAR PANEL

SK1 Insulated coaxial socket (FM Aerial)
SK2 Wander-plug socket (AM Aerial)
SK3 Min. 3 pin mains socket (Mains out)
SK4 Min. 3 pin mains socket (Mains out)
SK5 2 pin DIN socket (Right L.S.)
SK6 2 pin DIN socket (Left L.S.)
SK7 5 pin DIN socket (Mag. P.U.)
SK8 5 pin DIN socket (Cer. P.U.)
SK9 5 pin DIN socket (Tape Head)
SK10 5 pin DIN socket (Tape Recorder)
Notes:-

1. SK3/SK4 may be Bulgin P438 or similar.
2. 5 pin DIN sockets are $180^{\circ}$ type.


Fig. 15: Component location and printed circuit layout for the Stereo Decoder board. Both drawings are actual size.


Fig. 16 : Layout for the Front Pane/ showing positions of the controls and dial and pilot lamp windows.


This rear view of the prototype shows the type of chassis construction used.


Fig. 17: Layout of the Rear Pane/ which carries the input and output sockets and a/so forms the heatsink for the amplfier output transistors.
is spray painted. After marking and drilling all holes the paper coating on the rear side is removed except for masked areas and several coats of cellulose paint sprayed on. The original was sprayed black.

After spraying, the front side paper coating should be removed (again except for the masked areas) and Letraset, Blick or other dry-print lettering applied. The finished panel should then be sprayed with Letracote-matt varnish to protect the lettering. The masking paper can then be removed. Pilot lamp apertures may be painted on the rear side with red or orange cellulose paint.

## CHASSIS

The chassis is a skeleton framework made from aluminium strip and angle. A sheet aluminium rear panel, Fig. 17, carries the input and output sockets and also forms the heat sink for the power amplifier output transistors. The rear panel should be sprayed matt black and the various sockets labelled using Letraset.
a turns around
2 turns around
drive spindle


Fig. 19: Circuit of the Power Supply. C1 reduces interference from mains-borne transients.

On the prototype the depth of the chassis (front to back panels) was 10 in . This dimension and the size of the cabinet should be adjusted to suit whichever cassette recorder is to be used.

The framework carrying the front panel, the tuning drive and the various controls is shown in Fig. 18. The dial back plate, which is made from thin sheet aluminium, is mounted on the bolts carrying the drive cord pulleys. It should be sprayed in the chosen colour and the scales marked with Letraset. Calibration is best done when the tuner is complete and functioning-that way the station markings cannot fail to be accurately placed. Note that the drive cord passes behind the dial back plate.

## POWER SUPPLY (UNIT 5)

The power supply, Fig. 19, is mounted directly on the chassis using a lin $x^{{ }^{1}}{ }_{8}$ in aluminium bar running from front to back to carry the transformer and smoothing capacitors. The diodes may be mounted on a small printed board or tagstrip on or beside the transformer tagboard.

Sockets SK3 and SK4 carry switched AC mains out to the associated record deck or tape deck. The total load should not exceed 1A.

## Our next issue will cover connecting up, testing and alignment



## ACROSS

3 Serious parallels for such vibration? (9)
8 Simple to select four negative-feedback components? (4)
Orchestral extension measured in $\mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ ? (9)
10 Did a terminal fuse around that time? (4)
Such electrons currently at liberty? (4)
Rows about television screening (5)
Its wave's plotted without Latin! (4)
He's a king about such diodes (5)
Assumed superiority of some tuning? (4)
His F-layers lose weight but bear fruit? (5)
Echo metallic with a domestic connection (4)
26 Dwelling on such useless batteries? (4)
It turned the tables on the wireless! (9)
Champion fellow linked with the ends of radio (4)
Sort of circuit for the pick-up man? (9)

## DOWN

Polar bear with it may be resistivel $(5,4)$ Magazine that should be on tape? (8) Bit of cheese in the choked amplifierl (4)
Do err in our switching instruction? (5) Whispers that are audio-frequencies? (6) Enthusiasts putting out feelers for old sets (4) Employ Sue on distortion correction (3) Bordering on a picture with such an aerial? (5) Welcome that means a signal success (9) They urge us into radio-activity? (8) Scotsman in multi-antennae manufacture (3)
High in the charts with such a sound! (6) Radio to primitive peoples? (5) Palm-product in Goa's transformers (4) Overhead waveband, for goodness sake! (4)

## rsallescope

## PART 3

techniques alanamslie

## Y DEFLECTION

It is normal practice to amlify the Y signal before applying it to the deflection plates. Fig. 1 shows a simple AC amplifier that provides an asymmetrical output. This means that special measures have to be taken in the design of the CRT to avoid trapezium distortion. However, the circuit is not quite so simple as it looks and a stray capacity (plus CRT plate capacity) of well over 30 pF may exist between the anode and earth. At 1 MHz this stray capacity would take 25 mA if the tube were being driven with 150 V . This situation can only be improved by reducing the anode load, and increasing the current to maintain output, so that it is negligible in comparison to the reactance of this stray at the highest frequency of interest. This is only possible, within reason, as the anode current gets very large. Therefore this amplifier is capable of results only up to a maximum of a few MHz .


Fig. 1. Simple AC amplifier with asymmetrical output, not recommended for scope use.
There are several methods of producing true wide band performance and we shall look at these shortly after considering how we might modify the circuit to produce symmetrical deflection and be DC coupled.

## DC AMPLIFIERS

DC coupled amplifiers along the lines of the cascode AC amplifiers are not really successful due to drift causing the trace to shift as if varying DC were being applied to the input. Balanced amplifiers are therefore used which balance out any drifts and also provide symmetrical deflection. Simple oscilloscopes have need for only moderate gain and the circuit of Fig. 2 is fairly typical. V2 and V3 form a phase
splitter and each valve drives one deflector plate. V2 grid is undriven except by the shift control and this can be calibrated directly in volts of shift. The grid of V3 is driven from V1 in a normal manner and the input applied to V1 grid. The $2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ preset varies the sensitivity of the amplifier enabling a certain height of deflection to be achieved for a given input. It does not change the calibration of the shift control. Several laboratory scopes use calibrated shift controls as well as graticule measurement and we shall shortly discuss the calibration of such a system.

It is common practice to use a cathode follower input stage driving the first valve, and to arrange the circuit between positive and negative supply rails to ensure that shorting the input does not shift the trace and also to reduce influence from supply variations. Usually more amplification follows after the phase splitter. Fig. 3 shows the input stages of an EMI WM16 scope. The phase splitter is V3 and V4, V3 being the driven valve. The two outputs are fed to further amplifiers including a distributed amplifier before being applied to the tube.

Fig. 4 shows the general arrangement of a high quality Y amplifier system. In a large complex oscilloscope the components to the left of the dotted line would be constructed on a small plug-in chassis, allowing great flexibility. The signal level at the dotted line is about 0.5 V each side of zero.

The circuitry of a plug-in of high quality (rise time 5ns) is basically very simple, the signal levels being fairly low. In fact the simpler the circuit the better the chance of good HF performance as complicated wiring only introduces stray capacities.

## ATTENUATORS

The input is fed through a high frequency connector to the AC/DC switch which allows for DC blocking of the signal if required. The basic sensitivity of the $Y$ channel is generally about $50 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{cm}$ and the input capacitance looking into the cathode follower plus strays may be 20 pF . In order to reduce the sensitivity an attenuator is interposed between the cathode follower and the signal. It is important to keep the DC input resistance constant, usually $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$, and the capacity constant so that external probes can be used.

Fig. 5a shows a typical attenuator in the direct, most sensitive range, and at a divide-by- 10 position, Fig. 5b. The attenuator is switched at the point A by a low loss, carefully screened, low capacity switch. Often, after a few years of dust has accumulated, the attenuators need setting and the following method is recommended.


C1 is to compensate for changes in circuit capacity if V 1 is changed, but rarely needs attention. The resistors are usually fixed and so no adjustment is needed here, the values can be checked as the input resistance is the sum of the divider resistors, i.e. $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$. Any range giving other than $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ is faulty and one or other of the resistors must be replaced. The series variable capacitor is then set on each range to give zero overshoot or rise deformation of a 1 kHz square wave of good (less than $1 \mu \mathrm{sec}$ ) rise
time. If one starts at the "direct" position it is possible to check the fidelity of the square wave as applied.

When all the series trimmers are set for good square waves then the trimmers marked as C2 should be set. This involves measuring the input capacity on the direct range and adjusting C2 on the other ranges to give the same value. This capacitance is small, 25 pF , and in parallel with $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ is difficult to measure. However one can set up a


Fig. 5. (a) A simple direct attenuator and (b) $\mathrm{a} \div 10$ attenuator with compensating capacilors.

10:1 or, even better, a $50: 1$ probe to give correct results on the direct range. C2 can then be set on each range for the fidelity of the square wave. The only snag is the high voltage needed for the high voltage ranges to give a reasonable deflection but in the absence of the proper gear this is the best that can be done.

Not all attenuators are built in this manner, where individual sections are switched in, but in a manner where the sections are interdependent. These attenuators usually tap the signal off a $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega \Omega$ chain of resistors and the capacitor settings are interdependent. It is best to obtain a manual if readjustment is necessary.

The attenuator feeds the cathode follower which is arranged between symmetrical supply lines to help eliminate drift. The cathode follower and phase splitter are arranged as in Fig. 3. The small anode loads and L1, L2, L3 maintain a good HF response. The balanced amplifier and buffer (usually a cathode follower) are fairly conventional with the addition of a few coils to help the HF response. The coil is arranged to resonate with the stray it is introduced to overcome, at a frequency higher than the required -12 dB point. Care has to be taken to ensure that transients do not cause ringing and the criterion for good transient response is that the response curve should have a "Gaussian" fall-off. The -12 dB point then occurs at twice the frequency of the -3 dB point. In this way the amplifier will show no ringing on transients and consequently most high grade amplifiers are tailored to this requirement.

## GAUSSIAN FALL OFF

For a perfectly gaussian response the result obtained earlier that Rise Time $\times$ Response $=365$ is found to be untrue and the true figure for the product is 350 . However this gives erroneous results in several cases where the rise time and bandwidth are measured separately. The product of the two values is usually found to be about 365 and so this value is taken for most calculations. Most practical amplifiers produce the required gaussian fall-off, but, if not, can easily be tailored for the required performance. Small inductors and capacitors are used, these being adjusted so that a known "good" pulse (say a 500 kHz square wave, rise time less than 10 ns ) produces no ringing. This condition gives the fastest rise time as well and so ringing of transients in a wide band amplifier may be an indication that the response is not as it should be.
One other factor is the delay of the amplifier and this must be considered for all frequencies significantly within the pass band. Fortunately we do not need to worry too much about the delay changing
with frequency as the adjustment to a gaussian falloff produces the required group delay characteristics.

While discussing frequency relationships within the amplifier it is perhaps as well to consider nonlinear HF distortion. This is usually noticed as an inability of the amplifier to produce more than a small deflection at a high frequency regardless of how large an input is present. The effect usually occurs outside the normal pass band of the amplifier, but is worth having in mind when using a wobbulator (FM oscillator, deviated by the timebase) to check responses of external circuits as the amplitude of the trace may have a bearing on what is presented on the screen.

## y drive circuits

We now come to consider the business end of the Y amplifier, the CRT driver circuits. These are always housed in the main frame of a plug-in type of oscilloscope as they are rather bulky and the shortest possible leads to the Y plates are required. Narrow band oscilloscopes, say up to 5 or 6 MHz , use conventional output stages with low anode loads and peaking coils. The anode current to produce the 30 or 40 V output needed is rather high. Typical valves used are ECC88, but they are rather overrun. A large DC signal may cause heating of the valve electrodes and a shift of the trace as the valve characteristics change. This effect is also present in the early balanced stages, but is not nearly so bad as in this type of output stage. However suitable feedback between the halves of the output stage can reduce the effect to an acceptable level.

To obtain 30 or 40 MHz bandwidths by the above method of balanced single output stages would be pretty hopeless and so use is made of the distributed amplifier, a transmission line with gain, if one likes to think of it that way.

## DISTRIBUTED AMPLIFIERS

Fig. 6 shows the general arrangement of a balanced Y amplifier. The valves are effectively in parallel from a DC point of view. If pentodes are used the screen grid is taken to the positive supply in the normal way. The anode and grid lines form delay lines and the mode of operation is to make the wave velocity the same in each line. The velocity is dependent upon the inductance of the lines and the capacitance at each stage, the valve anode or grid capacity.


A 79-section 170 ns delay line showing capacilors for adjusting line impedance and velocily.

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Type 3508 ohm, 20 watt | $61^{\prime \prime} 8$ |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| $8^{\prime \prime}$ | $8 \mathrm{ohm}, 10$ | $\begin{array}{ll}8^{\prime \prime} & 8 \text { ohm, } 10 \text { watt } \\ 12^{\prime \prime} & 8 \text { ohma } 20 \text { watt }\end{array}$ $12^{\prime \prime \prime} 8$ obm, 20 watt

$8^{\prime \prime} \times 5^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{Mag} .5$ watt

## $\times 8^{\prime \prime}$ Dualcone 8 ohn

 FANE $7^{10} \times 4^{\prime \prime} \times 3$ or 8 ohm CELESTION $8^{\prime \prime}$ Dualcone 8 ohm CELESTION $8^{*} 15 \mathrm{ohm}$ ADASTRA $10^{\prime \prime} 8$ or 15 ohm BAKERBAKER GROUP 25
$12^{N} 8$ or 15 oam, 25 watt $5^{*} 8$ ohm, 5 watt C/Mag 2 N $^{*} 8$ ohm or 64 ohm OF GOODMAN AND AVA AVAILABLE.
KIT FORM CABINETS-TEAK VEMEEE
$12 \times 12 \times 6$ with $8^{\prime \prime}, 8^{\prime \prime} \times 5^{\prime \prime}$,
or $61^{\prime \prime}$ and $31^{\prime \prime}$ cutout $\times 0^{\prime \prime}$
$17 \times 10 \times 9$ with $8^{\prime \prime}$ or $13^{\prime \prime} \times 8^{\prime \prime}$ cutout
cutout $\times 9 \times 1$ with $13^{\prime \prime \prime} \times 8^{\prime \prime}$ cut
out for EMI 350
out for EMI 350
TWEETER \& CEOSSOTER
EMI 31" 3 or 8 ohm C/Mag. Cone Tweeter 8 or 15 ohm, 10 wa Cone Tweeter 8 ohm, 3 watt Horn Tweeter 8 ohm, 20 watt Dome Tweeter 8 ohm, 30 watt ( 8 ohm ) CN216 (16 ohm) 28 (8 ohm), CN216 (16 ohm) CARTRIDGE8
GO8 GP91/28C or GP91/38C Stereo comp.

AP98/1 Stereo crys. 9P94/1 Stereo cry
GP9B/1
GP96/1
GP101
ONOTONE
9TAHC 8tereo cerame dita
TAHC/G Slim ceramic, diam.
diam
BSR SC5M Stere cerami

| SX5H 8tereo crystal |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | X 5 M Stereo | crystal |  | 165 |
|  | XII Mono/st | ereo |  | 1.30 |
|  | X8M Mono/b | ereo |  | 1.30 |
| GOLDF | RING G800 |  |  | 385 |
|  | G850 |  |  | $2 \cdot 25$ |
| STYLI For Above Cartridges |  |  |  |  |
| Sapph | hire |  |  | 30 |
| D. 1 | Damond |  |  | 125 |
| GOLDP | RING 1800 G | 850 |  | 1.95 |
| MICROPHONES |  |  |  |  |
| CM20 | Crybial Han |  |  | 60 |
| CM70 Planet atick metal awitch |  |  |  |  |
| DM160 Dynamic unl-dir, ball |  |  |  |  |
| UD130 $50 \mathrm{~K} / 600 \mathrm{ohm}$, unl-dir, |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { CONDE } \\ & \text { unl-dir } \end{aligned}$ | ENSER MIK | E 600 | ohm, | 7.90 |
| Casgette sTICK MIKE with R |  |  |  |  |
| Control on/off switch (2.5 \& |  |  |  |  |
| 3.5 m | min J/Ply) |  |  | 1.45 |
| MIKE MIXERS Mono 410 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Mono/st | creo de | de luxe | 5.50 |
| CASSETTES |  |  |  |  |
| Type Low Pin- Pbil |  |  |  |  |
| C45 |  |  |  | pex |
| C60 35p 40p 50p 65p 85p |  |  |  |  |
| C90 | 45080 | 69p | $76 p$ | 750 |
| C120 65p 75p 105p 110p 110p |  |  |  |  |
| Cassette Head Cleaner 45 |  |  |  |  |
| BIB Stereo Test Cassette |  |  |  |  |
| $\underset{\substack{\text { AMPEX Head Cliser }}}{\text { maner De }}$ (6s |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| PLASTIC LIBRARY CASES for $5^{\prime \prime}$ Reels 20p. 51" Reela 25p. 7" Reels 80 m |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| CASSETTE CAsES |  |  |  |  |
| TAPES | Stnd. | L $\mathbf{P}$, |  | D P. |
|  | 550 | 65p |  | 800 |
| $5{ }^{\prime \prime}$ | 85 p | 750 |  | 21.00 |
| $\gamma^{*}$ | 80 p | 81.05 |  | 11.40 |

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The value of $R_{L}$ is such that the wave, reflected at the open circuit CRT end of the line is absorbed on reflection, is therefore equal to the impedance of the line, usually about 250 ohms. Rg similarly loads the grid line to prevent reflections.

L1, L2 and Cd do not form part of the distributed amplifier but show how the anode lines may be extended to form a delay line. The delay line is made up of sections such as this, carefully sealed from dust and terminating in the CRT plate capacitance. The delay obtained may be several hundred nanoseconds, but a usual figure is a total delay of 200 ns , 30 ns in the distributed amplifier and 170 ns in the delay line. Generally about 2 or 3 ns delay is given per section (i.e. one LL1, one L2, one Cd).

The delay is used to enable the timebase to start up before the appearance of a fast transient and so triggering is taken from the amplifier driving the grid lines, usually by a cathode follower to minimise loading. The effect of a mistuned delay line is that internal reflections may occur due to changes in impedance and the rise time may suffer. The latter effect is obvious if the rise time is not meeting specification, but the first fault causes a small ripple on the top of a displayed fast square wave $(500 \mathrm{kHz})$. The delay line trimmers nearest the CRT plates affect the leading edge and the trimmers further back affect later portions of the pulse.

If a pulse generated from a reliable generator and correctly terminated shows this type of distortion the first step is to measure the time from the pulse edge to the ripple using the scope timebase calibration.


This time is then halved, because of the reflection, and the number of stages of delay back from the CRT plates is determined from the time per section (found by dividing total delay as quoted in the manual by the number of stages assuming $2 \cdot 5$ ns per section). The trimmers in this region can then be touched with a metal screwdriver, taking care not to turn them and the presence of the screwdriver will cause a hump or dip to appear in the top of the displayed 500 kHz square wave. The trimmer needing adjustment can be located when the screwdriver increases or decreases the fault. The trimmer is then trimmed with a plastic trimming tool, and all should be well. It is not advisable to play with delay lines as once upset they can take hours or days of hard work to sort out.

## FAULTS

Sometimes failure of a valve in the distributed amplifier can give rise to reflections indicating a faulty delay line or distributed amplifier line. Before

making any adjustments to the lines it is best to remove each of the amplifier valves in turn. The faulty valve when removed will clear the fault. An ideal pulse to display when making these adjustments is the timebase "bright up" or gating pulse, with the timebase on a suitably fast range. When a valve is replaced in the distributed amplifier it may be necessary to make a small adjustment to that valve's anode trimmer capacitor, and possibly to the trimmers on cither side, but not to any more.

It cannot be emplasised too much that the delay line and distributed amplifier should need only small adjustment very rarely indeed. Playing about will only result in hours of work, possibly requiring the scope to be returned to the manufacturers for a major overhaul (probably costing $£ 50$ or more).

## DELAY IINES

The advantages of a delay line for pulse work are many, the main one being that a signal can trigger the timebase, and then, when it is running, the signal arrives at the Y plates. There are several good scopes around of quite wide bandwidth, but lacking a delay line, and so are limited in their applications to pulse work. However coaxial cable can be used for delay purposes. Standard 70 ohm cable is suitable and has a wave velocity factor of about $0 \cdot 66$. This gives 195 m of cable for a $1 / \mathrm{sec}$ delay or, for the more usual 250 ns delay, a cable length of 48 m , which can be conveniently bought as a 50 m drum of cable and left coiled on the drum.

It is necessary to load the cable at either the scope or source end with a 70 ohm resistor to prevent reflections. In use, one end of the cable is plugged into the scope input socket and the signal is applied at the other end. The timebase is set to external trigger and the trigger lead is connected to the source end of the cable. Fig. 7 shows the general idea which although it seems crude is a useful method of obtaining a constant delay without upsetting the input wave.

## BEAM SWITCHING

We have so far considered only a single beam $Y$ deflection system. Often two traces are required simultaneously and the obvious method would be a double beam tube and two $Y$ deflection systems. In the light of the above discussion two distributed amplifiers and delay lines would cost a lot of money and the time taken in adjustment would be enormous,
not to mention 36 Y output valves ( 9 valves per half section)!

Usually wide band scopes employ beam switching techniques where two signals are displayed


Fig. 7. Set-up using a 50 m drum of co-axial cable as a simple delay line.
alternately. The $Y$ amplifier requirements are the same as for single trace operation and so one good amplifier can be built into the main frame and a dual trace plug-in used.

Fig. 8 shows the bare essentials of a dual trace unit the heart of which is the multivibrator. In the simplest mode of operation the multivibrator changes state during each flyback period, triggered by the sync feed. For each scan the multivibrator is in alternate states and the gates alternately open and close. When $\mathrm{CH}_{1}$ gate is open CH2 gate is closed and the CH 1 signal is displayed. On the next scan CH 2 is displayed and so on. By manipulating the separate shift controls two separate traces are seen.

At fairly low timebase sweep rates the traces are seen to alternate and this is known as the "alternate" mode or just ALT. To overcome the flicker the multivibrator can be free run at 100 kHz or so. Thus CHl and CH2 signals are displayed in quick succession. This method, called CHOP is useful at all sweep speeds but especially at low sweep speeds where the ALT mode produces flicker. The display is simultaneous in real time up to the switching speed, but sometimes beat effects occur with the switching waveform and in these cases ALT is used.

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$8 \mathrm{kmp} .6,8,10,12,16,18,20,24,80,86,40,48,6026.00$ $8 \mathrm{amp} .6,8,10,12,16,18,20,24,80,86,40,48,6028.00$
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## SHORT WAVE DX by MALCOLM CONNAH

TO those of you have not been up in the loft for some time I would suggest that you nip up there a bit sharpish and have a look round. This all stems from the mention in the March column that Richard Staples had found an Eddystone 680X in his loft.

Shortly after publication of that issue 1 received a letter from H. B. Sheward of Tavistock in Devon who wrote: "Knowing I would not be so lucky (as Richard Staples) I ventured into my loft with the aid of a ladder on Sunday last and came up with the following odd items:-BCl147A, Heathkit VFl, Heathkit HG 10, R'109, No. 62 set, No. 38 set, No. 18 set, No. 19 set, No. 22 set, PCR 1, Class D Wavemeter, Rl03, No. 52 set, B23, several vintage sets and, wait for it, a Hallicrafters S120 and a Hammarlund HQ 140 X."

With that little lot Mr. Sheward could almost open a shop. I do not suggest that you will all be as lucky but if you live in a fairly elderly house there could well be an old piece of radio equipment in the loft which could be put to better use.

## Readers' Logs

The first log this month comes from John Spinks of Norwich who has been concentrating on the 60 metre band. This concentration plus a Trio 9R-59DS, 75 foot long-wire and an A.T.U. produced the following excellent results:
4790 Springbok Radio, South Africa at 2135.
4800 R. Lara, Venezuela, heard at 2348.
4825 Moscow, news in Russian at 2030.
4860 AIR, Delhi, chanting at 2110.
4880 R. Peking in Chinese at 2155.
4900 R. Juventud, Ven., in Spanish at 0040.
4904 Fort Lamy, Chad Rep., in French at 2035.
4905 R. Relogio, Brazil, pop music at 0020.
4930 Majek, USSR, in Russian \& English at 2130.
4940 Frunz, USSR, Russian opera at 2115.
$4972 \cdot 5$ R. Yaounde, Cameroon in French at 2150.
4980 R. Ghana, African news at 2105.
4980 Ecos del Torbes, Ven., heard at 0001.
4990 Lagos, Nigeria, sports news at 2230.
5010 R. Garoua, Cameroon, French talk at 2205.

5030 R. Continente, Ven., music at 0034.
5035 R. Alma Ata, USSR, Russian talk at 0040.
Paul Broadhurst, who lives near Bristol, used his Trio 9R-59DS with a 150 foot long-wire and 19 metre dipole to hear the following stations:
6025 R. Lisbon, Portugal noted at 2045.
6050 Rome, Italy sign on at 2030.
6070 R. Sofia, Bulgaria, sign on at 1600 .
6150 R. Belgrade, Yugoslavia at 2020.
6160 Brussels, Belgium noted at 2315.
6165 R. Kiev, noted at 1940.
6190 Vatican Radio noted at 2050.
7195 AIR, Delhi at 2200.
9550 Radio Finland, sign on at 2030.
9610 R. Canada Int., sign on at 2058.
9735 VOA, Monrovia, Liberia at 2120.
9760 Accra, Ghana noted at 2115.
11880 Voice of Turkey noted at 2200.
15120 Voice of Nigeria noted at 1620.
15155 RSA, South Africa, sign on at 1800.
15300 HCJB, Quito, Ecuador at 2010.
15425 Vienna, Austria noted at 1840.
Steve Davis of Hanworth in Middlesex has a Satellit 6001 receiver and 10 metre dipole enabling him to hear:
3985 SBC, Berne in English at 1530.
5000 WWV, Colorado, USA at 0900.
5000 IBF, Turin, Italy at 1000.
6155 Vienna, Austria in English at 1830.
9480 R. Tirana, Albania in English at 1630.
9505 R. Prague in English at 1500.
11720 R. Nacional, Brazil in English at 2300.
15130 Kol Israel in English at 1130.
15415 R. Kuwait in English at 1730.
21525 WYFR, USA noted at 1600 .
Don Kelly of Co. Cork in Eire used his B40 receiver to hear the following stations:
9535 SBC, Berne in English at 1100.
9550 R. Norway in English at 1400.
11755 R. Finland in English at 1405.
11765 Deutsche Welle in English at 1700.
11835 R. Sudan noted at 1600 .
11855 R. Prague in English at 1545.
11940 R. Bucharest in English at 1300.
15165 R. Denmark noted at 1400.
15250 RSA, South Africa noted at 1700.
15440 WYFR, USA at 1800.
Mr. M. C. Smith of Blackpool has a 'PW' $9 / 12$ receiver, an A.T.U. and an 80 foot long-wire, this set up enabling him to hear:
6055 R. Australia in English at 2100.
7065 R. Tehran, Iran in English at 1637.
7145 R. Australia in English at 1500.
9005 R. Tehran, Iran in English at 2000.
11765 R. Australia, sign off at 1230.
11790 R. Australia in Thai at 1330.
17935 R. Pakistan noted at 0830.


MEDIUM WAVE BROADCASTS by CHARLES MOLLOY

BRENDON McNAMEE (Portrush, N. Ireland) has a Sharp BZ-23 portable receiver with internal ferrite rod aerial and he reports daytime reception of BBC Radio Blackburn on 854 kHz at 1355 hrs ; Radio Merseyside 1484 kHz at 1200 hrs ; Radio Clyde 1151 kHz at 1100 hrs . After dark Brendon has logged Radio Bristol 1546 kHz at 1905 hrs and Trans World Radio, Montecarlo at 2300 hrs . Christopher Beaver (Stoke-on-Trent) is another local radio enthusiast. With his GEC domestic radio and selection of four 50ft outdoor antennas he has heard Radio Solent on 998 kHz ; Radio Birmingham on 1457 kHz ; Radio Manchester on 1457 kHz ; London Broadcasting on 719 kHz ; Manx Radio (Isle of Man) on 1594 kHz . Christopher has received verifications (QSLs) from BBC local radio stations at Blackburn, Stoke, Nottingham, Bristol, Teesside and Leicester.
P. Grace (Belfast) refers to the enquiry in the February issue of Practical Wireless about White's Radio Log and mentions that it now appears in Communications World which is published in the United States by Science and Mechanics. White's Radio Log contains listings of AM-FM-TV-SW stations in Canada and the United States.

William F. Kitching (Telford, Shropshire) uses a Grundig Yacht Boy receiver and a 25 metre outdoor aerial when DXing on the medium waves. His log includes Radio Nacional Espana stations at Madrid on 584 kHz ; Coruna on 638 kHz ; Seville 683 kHz ; Barcelona 737 kHz ; San Sebastian 773 kHz together with the Voice of America relay at Kavalla in Greece on 791 kHz ; Sud Radio, Andorra on 818 kHz ; American Forces Network at Munich on 1106 kHz and Stuttgart on 1142 kHz ; Vatican Radio on 1529 kHz . William has been a medium wave DXer for two years and he has received a total of 40 MW QSLs.

Roy Patrick (Derby) has received the following details from the Independent Broadcasting Authority's Engineering. Department. Radio Clyde 1151 kHz transmits from Dechmont Hill with a power of 4 kW ; Radio Birmingham 1151 kHz uses 3 kW into a vertical antenna located at Langley Mill; Radio Manchester is due to start in April on 1151 kHz with a power of 4 kW from a site at Ashton Moss. Later in 1974 Radio Swansea will be on 1169 kHz ; Radio Tyneside will be on 1151 kHz with $2 \cdot 5 \mathrm{~kW}$ while Radio Edinburgh, Radio Liverpool (Rainford) and Radio Sheffield (Skew Hill) will all be on 1546 kHz .

A number of readers have asked if it is possible to use a MW loop aerial with a transistor portable which has its own internal ferrite rod aerial. One method tried by the writer is to attach the portable receiver to the centre of the loop in such a way that the nulls of the loop and the ferrite rod aerial coincide. Generally, this will mean that the portable will be mounted at right angles to the plane of the loop windings. Coupling between the loop and ferrite aerial is by induction and the loop and receiver are rotated together to null-out interference.

## VHF/FM DXING

## by SIMON DAVID

HOW many of you had a bumper bundle on Sunday 20th January? An example of what I mentioned last month, propagating conditions in the upper atmosphere, caused some fascinating things to happen. A tropospheric opening occurred for a few days starting on the 18th. On the 19th we thought that France had moved into England and on the 20th and 21st we were truly "in Europe".

Straight after writing last month's column, E. W. Earnshaw, G3ZXN, of Newcastle-on-Tyne wrote to me. "FM DXing is not impossible from the North of England", he writes. He picked up a number of German and French stations plus-wait for itSpain, Yugoslavia and, would you believe, Ankara. in Turkey.

Of course, there were unusual conditions, but it is great if you have the patience to wait for them. For the record a Metrosound FMS20 was used with an aerial designed for 145 MHz (outside U.K. FM broadcasting). I hasten to add that readers should not expect such results with the wrong type of aerial normally. He has now installed an 8-element beam, 40 feet up, with a rotator.

I have also received a log from our friend Roy Patrick in Derby for 20th January. This includes SWF Germany Haardtkopf on $97 \cdot 7 \mathrm{MHz}$, HR Frankfurt Meissner on $99 \cdot 0 \mathrm{MHz}$ and Boulogne on $99 \cdot 9 \mathrm{MHz}$. His receiver is a Grundig portable. BBC Radio Humberside has sent Roy a QSL letter for $96 \cdot 8$ and he also picked up Capital Radio ( $95 \cdot 8 \mathrm{MHz}$ ).

I heard that a reader in Ipswich who has a 6-
element aerial directed towards Wrotham (North Kent), has picked up BBC Radio Bristol on $95 \cdot 5 \mathrm{MHz}$ and Rouen (station frequency not stated). His tuner is a home made design.

The General Advisory Council of the BBC have advised the $B B C$ to make representations with a view to clearing the $97 \cdot 6$ to 100 MHz band of all service users. That would mean that the police frequencies would have to be revised so that the U.K. can make maximum use of the internationally agreed $88-100 \mathrm{MHz}$ band for broadcasting. I, for one, am delighted to hear of this and sincerely hope that they successfully seek the necessary legislation.

Good DXing! Don't forget to keep in touch. Please state the approximate frequencies of stations heard and the signal strength. Also of interest is your receiver type and aerial used, and the date when you heard the reported stations.

How about this for a jumbo bag? Peter Taylor writes from Whitton in Middlesex: "I have an Armstrong 624 tuner and 3-element Yagi aerial in the loft". So far Peter says that he has received most of the French stations in N.E. France, apart from those masked by British stations. He also receives the three Lille transmissions virtually all the time. On the 20th-21st January he received (and sent me a cassette recording) the following: Radio Austria Pfander I 98-2; AFN Frankfurt 98-7; Suddeutscher Rundfunk I $98 \cdot 8$; Bayerischer Rundfunk, Munich III $97 \cdot 3$ (including signature tune); Sudwestfunk, Haardtkopf I $97 \cdot 7$ and II $93 \cdot 0$; Westdeutscher Rundfunk, Teutob. Wald II $93 \cdot 2$ and III $97 \cdot 0$; Hessischer Rundfunk, Biedenkopf I $91 \cdot 0$; ORTF, Besanscon, France Musique $92 \cdot 9$, France Culture $97 \cdot 7 \mathrm{MHz}$.

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| H34 | 15 | Power Transistors, PNP. <br> Germ. NPN Silicon <br> TO. 3 Can. |  |

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## SHORT WAVES

by DAVID GIBSON, G3JDG

IT seems that all the staunch supporters of 20 metres and the other two h.f. bands have fled. In the abscence of easy DX it appears that we are separating the real s.w.ls from the "Sunday Listeners". Most logs which arrived this month were for 80 metres, although very few dared brave 7 MHz .
Some ideas for Glyn Fisher who requested a good modern receiver covering $4-6 \mathrm{MHz}$ continuously Two suggestions: P. Maynard (Lancs) proposes the EC10 pointing out that it works off six U2 batteries and can be used anywhere. Barry Keal, G8HDU (Lancs) reckons the SW717 from Heathkit would suit, having used one himself for the past two years as a tuneable i. f. for listening on two metres.

## Readers' Logs

Jon Hirst (Cambs) claims to have discovered a very large l.f. net which involves the Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society. Net controller is said to be GW3ASW and the frequency for interested s.w.ls is 3.720 MHz -listen Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2000 hrs and on $7 \cdot 050 \mathrm{MHz}$ at 1030 hrs on Sundays.
Stanley Sharred (Birmingham) is sticking to his permanent resolution of never making New Year resolutions. He spent the time instead listening on topband and offers some juicy callsigns heard on Trawler territory; GI3YFY, GW3ZQN, EI8H, EP2BQ, KV4FZ, OE8DM, OL5AQC, OK1FCW, PY1RO, VEIAX, VEICO, VEICD, VEIMX, VEIASJ, VE3DN, VOIKE, W1GJE, W1HGT, W2DED, W3BJZ. All these were c.w. signals which just goes to show what you're missing if you can't read morse-yet? Amongst the s.s.b. stations heard by Stanley on 80 metres were; CT1HE, JY3ZH, K2RM, K4GSU, KH4NCA, KZ5JM, TI2WD, TI2YF, VE2BZA, VP2VPU, VX1BT, VX1FG, VX2AS, W1MX, WB2KQC/P/2, W3TTW, W3ZBY, W4YN, WB4KDR, W8FIE, YV3TN, 3A0FY, A peep on 7 MHz c.w. revealed; OA2NYD, PY7BTX, PY7CAR, VK3MR. No mention of any receiver or aerial with these logs so one must presume that earholes in the Birmingham area are considerably more sensitive
than those in Harpenden (maybe it's something to do with the drinking water).
First of the $3 \cdot 5 \mathrm{MHz}$ logs comes from John Porter (Derbyshire) who used a 9R59DS and a 30 metre wire to bag these on s.s.b.; CR3WB, CT1ATV, EP2BQ, HB9AFM, I3BYT, JY3ZH, KV4AB, K2BT, LA9LSV. OHITY, ON4UN, PJ9KH, PY2FOT, VE1BB, VE1JA, W1AA, WB8HDR/P1, 9E5CQ. John also managed OL7AQX and ZS6ZE on topband c.w.

Letter which appears to be from Stever Tiltell (bad writing, I expect it's Ena Boggins or something) in the Isle of Wight tells tales of eighty metre s.s.b. signals from; EA3JE, HA0KDA, K5EKD, OH7RM. OK3RJ, PYIFI, PZIDR, VE3ARR/P, VE3FMJ. VE3GO, VK2LW, W9ADN, W5WZ, YD9AB/P. YO3AC. Stever (or Ena) says this was the result of giving the receiver a quick work out coz it was new. Gear is a RAl plus PR40 and a "70ft. or so" wire.
Brian Smith has sent in his first log from Somerset. He reckons to have many more hours of s.w.ling to go $\operatorname{coz}$ he's only 15. Squeaks of 80 metre s.s.b. were logged on a 9R59DS and a 130 ft . loft aerial from the following; CTlVY, CT3AB, EA4LK, EA6BG. HB9ADN, ON5JY, OZ3SS, VU1SX, WICR, 5B4KP.

Craig Ashby (Bucks) has made unspecified changes in his aerial and earth system which feeds his UR-1A receiver. Best on eighty metres were; CT3AB. OK1KPU and SM6CWK. On 7MHz; DK7KS, ON6OS.

Hilton Helm (no relation to Matt, I hope?) writes from Salisbury in Rhodesia. The receiver is a homebrew five-transistor regen fed with 50 ft . of wire. Hilton built the receiver during the school holidays and managed to bag some s.s.b. signals from; A4XFD. CR6RJ, CR6UE, CX4CR, DJ4KB, DK8FZ, EA3UU. EL2CJ, G2JZ, G4ADU, HS1BG, HS4AKF, I8ZPQ. I0DLP, K4YYL, PYIZAE, PY2CRN, VE7FI, VE7MT. VK2SG, VK5QX, VS9MJ, VU2AIK, VU2MX. WB2ZHY, W2HIN, W2ONV, W4QAW, W7APA. W8GKQ, XW8ES, YB9ABH, 3B8CJ, 3B8DX, 4Z4EV. $4 Z 4 \mathrm{MQ}, 5 \mathrm{U} 7 \mathrm{AZ}, 5 \mathrm{Y} 4 \mathrm{XYP}, 5 \mathrm{Z} 4 \mathrm{FB}, 9 \mathrm{HlCW}, 9 \mathrm{M} 2 \mathrm{AT}$. $9 \mathrm{M} 2 \mathrm{FX}, 9 \mathrm{M} 2 \mathrm{GO}, 9 \mathrm{~V} 1 \mathrm{Rr}, 9 \mathrm{X} 5 \mathrm{NA}, 9 \mathrm{X} 5 \mathrm{VA}$. All these were on 14 MHz which just goes to show what's about.
A. McNeill (Berks) queries some funny callsignsCK8T, HE7MW, KU7KJW, LYIDYM/9 and PTIRA. Anyone making any sense out of these should consult a psychiatrist immediately. Meanwhile, with an exRAF R108Z receiver and 33 ft end fed, the following presented themselves on 14MHz; CR6AL, EL2OSB/ MM, FG5P, FP8PR, FC8TT, HK1FL, KP4DLC. LU9CV, OA7WA, PY1LA, TI2WD, TF3SE, VK6FT, VP9HL, VE3AHB, W5MJQ, W6OV, W7AYO, YKIOK. YV5BLT, ZS6JK, ZE8JJ, 9H1DQ, 9H4C, 4S7CF. 5Z4JDP, 5U7AZ.
Glyn Fisher (Rutland) uses a dipole, MOS FET converter and an HRO tuning $4-6 \mathrm{MHz}$ to $\log$ these on 144 MHz ; DJ9PCA, DK2RY, DL3SPA, F1BHL, F1BJD, F1RM, F6ANW, F9FT, G2BAR, GI3GXP. HB9QQ, PA0VV, all on s.s.b.

Contests for April include: April $7,3 \cdot 5 \mathrm{MHz}$ low power; 20-21, Burmuda (phone); 21, 4 metre open; 27-28, National Amateur Television; May 45, 2 metre open and s.w.l.; May 4-5, second Burmuda (phone).

## BROADCAST BANDS

Short Wave Reports by 15th of the month to Malcolm Connah, 27 Lismore Road, Highworth, Wiltshire, SN6 7HU.

[^6]
## AMATEURBANDS

## Short Wave/VHF

Logs in alphabetical order please by 15th of the month to David Gibson, G3JDG, 12 Cross Way, Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

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SMALL ELECTROLYTICS

| Ref No Caparity Voltage |  |  | Price | Ref. No. |  | apacity | Voltage | Price |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| He/1 | $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 150 V | $4 p$ | H7/4A | $\bullet$ | $64 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 35 V | 5 p |
| H8/2 | $2 \cdot 2 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 25 V | 4 p | H7/5 | 11 | $80 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 16 V | 4p |
| H8,2A | $3 \cdot 3 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 25 V | 4 p | H7/8 | ${ }^{1}$ | ${ }^{80} \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 16 V | ${ }_{5 p}$ |
| H8/3 | $3 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 50 V | 4 | H7/8 | O | $125 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 16 V | 5p |
| H8/3A | $4 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 50 V | 4 p | H7/8A | 2 | $100 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 35V | 6 p |
| H8/4 | 4. $7 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 25 V | 4 p | $H 7 / 9$ $H$ $H$ | 0 | $100 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 63V | 6p |
| H8/4A | $5 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 64 V | 49 | H7/9A | $\bigcirc$ | ${ }_{125} 125 \mathrm{~F}$ | 25 V | ${ }_{6}$ |
| H8/5 | $5 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 10 V | 4 | H7/10 |  | ${ }_{160} 125 \mathrm{~F}$ | $2.5 V$ | 3p |
| H8/5A | $5 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 150 V | 4 p | H7/10A | 1 | ${ }_{160} 16 \mathrm{~F}$ | 25 V | ${ }^{3 p}$ |
| M8/6A | 10, $\mu \mathrm{F}$ | 10 V | 40 | H7/11 | H | $160 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 25 V | 6 p |
| M8/7 | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 70 V | 4 p | H7/11A | 0 | $150 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 16 V | 5 P |
| M8/8A | $16 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 16 V | 40 | H7/13A |  | $200 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 25 V | ${ }^{\text {sp }}$ |
| H3/9 | $20 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 6 V | 2 p | H7/14 | - | $220 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 50 V | 10p |
| H8/9A | $20 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 70 V | 4 p | H7/14A | m | $220 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 16 V | ${ }^{6 p}$ |
| H8/10 | $22 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 50 V | 4 p | H7/15 | - | $220 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 25 V 35 | 5p |
| H8/10A | $22 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 100V | 4p | H7/15A |  | $220 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 35 V | 10p |
| H8/11 | $25 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 12 V | 4 p | H6/1A | $\bullet$ | $250 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 4 V | ${ }^{3 p}$ |
| H8/11A | $24 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 275 V | 4p | H6/2 $H 6 / 3$ | M | $250 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 2.5 V | 3 p |
| H8/12 | $32 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 1 bV | 4 P | H5/3A | 0 | $320 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | $2 \cdot 5 \mathrm{~V}$ | 3p |
| H8/12A | $30 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 10 V | 4 p | H6/4 $H 6 / 4 A$ | 1 | $320 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ $330 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 10 V | 4 p |
| M8/13A | $32 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 50 V | 4 p | H6/4A | 4 | $330 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 16V | 5 p |
| H8/14 | 40ر $\mu \mathrm{F}$ | 25 V | $5 p$ | H6/5 | - | $330 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 3 | 15p |
| M8/14 A | $40 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 16 V | 49 | H6/5A | 4 | ${ }^{330 \mu \mathrm{~F}}$ | 35 V 25 | 15p |
| H8/15 | $47 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 50 V | 4 p | H6/8A |  |  | 35 V | 20p |
| H8/15A | 40/4F | 35 V | 4 p | H6/9A | 0 | $400 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |  |  |
| H7/1 | $50 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 6 V | 3p | H6/9A | - | $400 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 40 V | 20 p |
| H7/1A | $50 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 10 V | 4p |  |  |  |  |  |
| H7/2A | $64 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 2.5 V | 2p |  |  |  |  |  |
| H7,3A | $64 / 2 \mathrm{~F}$ | 25 V | 4 P |  |  |  |  |  |
| H7/4 | $64 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 15 V | 4p |  |  |  |  |  |

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| 07115472 | 16 | 4700 | 3.9 amps | 10z | 17p |
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| 07215752 | 16 | $7500+7500$ | 10.5 amps | 302 | 37p |
| 07215113 | 16 | $11000+11000$ | 13.8 amps | 4 foz | 49p |
| 07116472 | 25 | 4700 | 5.4 amps | $1 \frac{1}{8} \mathrm{Oz}$ | 22p |
| 07216502 | 25 | $5000+5000$ | 9.6 amps | 3 yz | 37 p |
| 07216752 | 25 | $7500+7500$ | 12.6 amps | 4102 | 49p |
| 07118681 | 63 | 680 | $2 \cdot 1$ amps | 10 L | 15p |
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| 10617103 | 40 | 10000 | 12 amps | 7102 | 94p |
| 10710222 | 100 | 2200 | 10 amps | $5 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{OZ}$ | 74p |
| Type No. 10215163 | Voltage 16 | Capacltance | Weight 807 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Price } \\ & 200 \end{aligned}$ |
| 10490003 | 20 | 39000 | 1602 |  | 30p |
| 10216802 | 25 | 8000 | 702 |  | 25p |
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| 5004 A | 1415 |  |  |  |
| $50.0-504 \mathrm{~A}$ | ¢4 25 |  | A |  |
| 100.0 100ua | [4.20 |  |  |  |
| 1 mA | 1410 |  |  |  |
| 5 mA | c4.10 |  | 8 |  |
| $10 \mathrm{~mm} A$ | [410 |  |  |  |
| 50 mA | 54.10 | 10 V DC |  | f4 10 |
| 100 mA | 6410 |  |  | f4.10 |
| 500 mA | c4 10 | 50 V DC |  | ¢4.10 |
| 1 A DC | 6410 | 300 V DC |  | 2410 |
| 5A DC | f4 10 | 15 V AC |  | 64.20 |
| 10A DC | f4 10 | 300 V AC |  | C4.20 |
| 5V DC | ¢4. 10 | VU Meter |  | 14.40 |

## 

100 mA
500 mA
$1 A D C$


$$
\begin{aligned}
& 300 \\
& S Q \\
& V U \\
& 1 A \\
& 5 A \\
& 100 \\
& 208
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 300 \mathrm{~V} \text { AC } \\
& \text { S Meter } \mathrm{Im} \\
& \text { VU Meter. } \\
& \text { IA AC }
\end{aligned}
$$

ImA..

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50
10
20
50
50
1
5
1
5
1
5
1
5
1
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5


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| 69p c1. 10 | 74193 74194 | £2.28 ¢1.65 | $4800{ }^{\text {45p }}$ | B2/20 B2/60 | 45p |
| 860 | 74196 | E1-45 | E1.35 | B2/100 | 55p |
| E1. 10 |  |  | ZN414 £1-15 | B4/800 | 00 |
| 950 $\times 1.37$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { LINE } \\ & 1 C^{\prime} 5 \end{aligned}$ |  | BRIDGE | BY122 | 55p |
| 38 p | 709C | 35p | RECTI | BY164 | 34 p |
| 69p | 723C | 90p | FIERS | WO1 | 30 p |
| 99p | 741 C | 38p | BO25/10 18p | WO6 | 35 p |
| 69p | 748C | 45p |  |  |  |
| 69p | CA30 | 46 95p | TGS (Gas | d Sm |  |
| 80 p | CA30 |  | Detector |  | 1-85 |
| $80 p$ |  | £1.65 |  |  |  |
| 99p | $30$ | $90 \times 4.25$ | L SOCK |  |  |
| 60p | LM30 | [1. 1.70 | 8,14, 16 pin | .. 15 | an |

POLYESTER CAPACITORS. Axial lead type.
$400 \mathrm{~V}: 0.001 \mu \mathrm{~F} ; 0.0015 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.0022 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.0033 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.0047 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.0058 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{p} ; 0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.015 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ : $00 \mathrm{~V}: 0.001 \mu \mathrm{~F} ; 0.0015 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.0022 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0 \mathrm{~F}, 0.15 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 4 \mathrm{p} ; 0.22 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 7 \mathrm{p} ; 0.33 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 10 \mathrm{p} ; 0.47 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 13 \mathrm{p}$ : $0.02 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 3 \mathrm{p} ; 0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.068 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0 \mathrm{~F}, 1 \mathrm{~F}, 0.15 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 4 \mathrm{p} ; 0.47 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 7 \mathrm{p} ; 0.68 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 10 \mathrm{p} ; 1 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 13 \mathrm{p}$.
Radlal lead P.C. type:
$250 \mathrm{~V}: 0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.015 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.022 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 3 \mathrm{p} ; 0.033 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.068 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 3 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{p}: 0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 4 \mathrm{p} ; 0.15 \mu \mathrm{~F}$, $4 \mathrm{p} ; 0.22 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.33 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 5 \mathrm{p} ; 0.47 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 7 \mathrm{p} ; 0.68 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 10 \mathrm{p}: 1.0 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 11 \mathrm{p}$.

ELECTROLYTIC CAPACITORS. Minlature axial lead type
$63 \mathrm{~V}: 1 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 1 \cdot 5 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 2 \cdot 2 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 3 \cdot 3 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 4 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 4 \cdot 7 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 6 \cdot 8 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 10 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 15 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 22 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 47 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 68 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 6 \mathrm{p}$ each $40 \mathrm{~V}: 100 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 6 \mathrm{p} ; 150 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}, 6 \mathrm{p} ; 25 \mathrm{~V}: 220 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 11 \mathrm{p} ; 470 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 13 \mathrm{p} ; 1,000 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 24 \mathrm{p}$ $40 \mathrm{~V}: 100 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 6 \mathrm{p} ; 150 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 16 \mathrm{~V}, 16 \mathrm{p} ; 25 \mathrm{~V}: 220 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 11$
$16 \mathrm{~V}: 1000 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 1500 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 16 \mathrm{p}: 10 \mathrm{~F}$. $2200 \mu$, 18 .

CERAMIC CAPACITORS
50 V d.c. Plaquelte body 25 mm leads. CoV d.c. Plaquette body 25 mm leads.
Range: $22 \mathrm{pF}-10,000 \mathrm{pF}$. Prlce 2 p each. Range: $22 \mathrm{pF}-10,00 \mathrm{pF} .3 \mathrm{Price} 2 \mathrm{p}$ each.
$0.015 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.022 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.033 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F} 3 \mathrm{p}$.
$\qquad$

MYLAR FILM CAPACITORS
$100 \mathrm{~V}: 0.001 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.002 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.005 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$,
$100 \mathrm{~V}: 0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0.2 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 50 \mathrm{~V}: 0.47 \mu \mathrm{~F} 6 \mathrm{p}$.
POTENTIOMETERS Carb
$0.25 \mathrm{~W}, \mathrm{l} 09$ and IInear values

| $0.25 W, 10 g$ and IInear values. |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega-2 M \Omega$ Single gang | 12p |
| $5 \mathrm{~K} \Omega-2 M \Omega$ s/gang w/switch | 24p |
| $2 \mathrm{k} \Omega-2 M \Omega$ Dual gang | 37 p |

$2 \mathrm{k} \Omega-2 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ Dual gang
PRESET POTENTIOMETERS $0.25 \mathrm{~W} 1 \mathrm{k} \Omega-1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ Hor. and Ver
$0.1 \mathrm{~W} 100 \Omega-220 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ Vert. only

## KNOES

To fit $1^{*}$ shaft unless specified. Black Pointer type
Slim Sllvered
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { SLIDER POTENTIOMETERS } \\ 0.25 & \text { Sidat } \\ \text { Black } 1 \text { - with chrome rim } \\ \text { Slider Pot knob (Black) }\end{array}$
0.25 W log and IInear values $\quad 40 \mathrm{p} \quad$ Slider Pot knob (Black)

|  |  | Sider |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega-100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ Single gang | 40 p | Slider Pot knob (Black) | 10 p |
| $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega-100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ Dual gang | 55 p | Slider Pot knob (Silvered) | 10 p |


| THYRISTORS |  |  | RESISTORS |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| CRS $1 / 10$ | 100 V 1 A | 30p |  |  | Range | Values | 10 | 0.8p |
| CRS 1/20 | 200 V 1 A | 35p | LW | 5\% | 2.2R-10M | E12 | 1 p | 0.8 p |
| CRS $1 / 40$ | 400 V 1 A | 45p | W | 5\% | $2 \cdot 2 R-10 \mathrm{M}$ $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{R}-10 \mathrm{M}$ | E12 | 2p | 1.50 |
| CRS 1/60 | 600 V IA | 55p | 1W | 10\% | 2.2R-10M $1-10 \mathrm{ohm}$ | E12 | 6 p |  |
| CRS $3 / 10$ | 100 V 3 A | 40p | 4W | 10\% | 1-10 ohm | E12 | 6 p |  |


| CRS $3 / 10$ | $400 \mathrm{~V} 3 A$ | $55 p$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| CRS $3 / 40$ | $600 \mathrm{~V} 3 A$ | 65 p |
| CRS $3 / 60$ | SWITCHES |  |


| ALUMINIUM BOXES |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| AB7 | $22^{\circ}$ | 51** | 11" | 40p |
| AB8 | $4 *$ | $4 \times$ | 11" | 40p |
| AB9 | 4" | $27^{\circ}$ | 1等" | 40p |
| AB10 | 4* | 51" | 13* | 45p |

SWITCHES
TOggle SPST
Sllde $\frac{1}{1} A$ sub. min.
Slide 1 A
Push Button 6 pole changeover


## JACK PLUGS (CHROME)

 Standard Screened 12p Stereo Screened 30p 2.5 mm Screened3.5 mm Screened DIM PLUGS, SOCKETS AND COUPLERS PIns: $2,3,4,5\left(180^{\circ}, 240^{\circ}\right), 6,7$
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C.C.P., Bucks. C.C.P., Bucks

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DISCO AMP 100 watt mixer／amplifier Northcourt：

| orthcourt： | mixer／amp |
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[^4]:    ERRATUM
    Zener Diode Tester. Feb 1974
    The 150 turn secondary winding of the oscillator transformer should be wound with 36 SWG enamelled wire and not 30SWG as specified on page 977.

[^5]:[^6]:    Medium Wave Logs to Charles Molloy, 132 Segars Lane, Southport, PR8 3 JG.
    VHF/FM Reports to Simon David, c/o Practical Wireless, Fleetway House,
    Farringdon Street, London, EC4A 4AD. Farringdon Street, London, EC4A 4AD.

