# P <br> ?~ 4  SEPTEMBER 1976 <br> <br> \# <br> <br> \# (2) <br>  



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This is a 24 hr twice on, twice off, clock switch This is a 24 hr twice on, twice off, clock owitch
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20

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Ideal for chargers etc. $2^{\prime \prime}$ sq. full vision $0.8 \mathrm{amp} 95 \mathrm{p} .1 \mathrm{t}^{\prime \prime}$ round 0.2 amp 55p, $0.3 \mathrm{amp} 65 \mathrm{p}, 0-4 \mathrm{amp} 75 \mathrm{p}$.
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Type 600 relay, 2 changeover one open and one closed contact. Twin 500 ohm coils make this
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$200-250 \mathrm{~V}$ Induction motor,

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Individual prces of these are:
2 track record playback heads 75p each. 4 track record playback heads $\& 1-10$ each. 2 trase heads are also available separately2 track 50p-4 track 56p.
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Containing a 15 amp change over wich in turn is operated by air pressure through a small metal tube. The operating pressure is adjustable but is set to operate in approx 101 a . of water. These are quite low pressure devices and can in fact be operated simply by blowing into the inlet tube. Original use was for washing machine to turn off water when tub has reached correct level but no doubt has many other
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Rated at 5 amps 250 volts,
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## 24V 8AMP BATTERY CHARGER KIT

Full wave rectifler and mains transformer for battery charging operating motor or special instruments etc. 25.50 VAT and carriage paid.

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THERMOSTAT WITH THERMOMETER Made by Honeywell for normal air temperatures 40-80 F (5-25 C). This is a precision instrument with a 1-5 F. A mercury switch breaks on temp. rige Flegantly styled and encased in an ivory plastic case with clear plastic windows, thermometer above and switch
 deep-can be mounted on conduit bor or directly on wall. Price $\$ 2 \cdot 25$ plus 50 p Post $\&$ VAT.

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snipers, vehicle drivers, etc. to see in the dark. The binoculars have to be fed from a high voltage source (5KV approx.) and providing the objects are in the rays of an
infra red beam then the binoculars nira red beam then the binoculars will
 ocular eye tube contains a complete optical lens system as well as the infra red cell, technical data on which is available. The binoculars are unused, believed to be in good order, in fact they were never issued and are still in original cases, but since they were made a long time ago they can hardly be called new. Sold without guarantee. Price $\mathbf{2 1 6} 50$ per set.


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Easiest way to fault find, traces signal from aerial to speaker when signal stops you've found the fault. Use it on Radio, TV, amplifer, anything. Complete kit comprises two special transistors and all parts lacluding probe tube and crystal ear-piece, $82 \cdot 95$, twin stetho-set instead of ear-piece crystal ear-piece, 28.95 , twin stetho-se
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Motor with Gear Box by Swiss SaIA Company makers type no. AMY5-A4SL. This is standard $220 / 240 \mathrm{v}$. 50 HZ motor, 15 revs per minute fina drive speed, the drive shaft is 4 mm dia. fitted with pickup block 8 mm square. Price $52 \cdot 50+$ 20p. Post $15 \mathrm{p}+2 \mathrm{p}$.
Motor with Gear Box Crouzet, their type no. 392. This is a 115 v motor with final drive speed of 15 rpm , anti-clockwise, the drive shaft is 4 mm diameter, fitted with removable 8 mm pickop Motor with Gear Box made by Smiths, their Motor with Gear Box made by Smiths, their
type no. Q1HG. $200-250 \mathrm{v} 50 \mathrm{HZ}$ operated type no. QiHg. $200-250 \mathrm{v}$ 50 HZ operated, 3.5 mm diameter 200 mm long with flat. Price 22.00 +20 p . Post $15 \mathrm{p}+2 \mathrm{p}$.

Motorized Time Delay. This contains $\frac{1}{8}$ rev. per minute motor for 24 v 50 HZ operation, with incorporated is one way INC clutch made by General Time of USA, makers ref. E15450, A2396 A4. Coupled to the motor is a dial calibrated -120 seconds. When coupled to the mains, the motor operates and when the pre-set number of seconds has been reached, the lever will trip the changeover micro-switch. This obviously could where short duration switehing off or on is required. A very expensive piece of equipment, mounted on a frame approx. $25^{\prime \prime} \times 3^{\prime \prime} \times 11^{\prime \prime}$
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6.3 v at $1.5 \mathrm{amp}, 6.3 \mathrm{v}$ at 2.25 amp. Separate screen brought to the tag panel. Price $84: 50+$ 36 p . Post $£ 1-00+8 \mathrm{p}$.
Tran: Auto Translormer 100 w size chassis mounting with fixing foot, tappings at the high voltage end and at the 116 v end. Very wel arnished for quiet operation. Price $\& 1 \cdot 50+12 p$ Post $80 \mathrm{p}+6 p$. fixing feet. Normal 240 v ' 5 QRZ primary, tapped 200 v and $220 \mathrm{v}, 2$ secondaries 50 v 's at 7 amps
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EHT Transformer 8.7 kv 23 mA 's intermittently rated with normal $240 \mathrm{v}, 50 \mathrm{HZ}$ primary. This lo made by Landon Kingsway Ltd., mainiy for igniting oil fired boilers, their ref. no. 20/0347/02. This is totally encased with fixing feet, 3 core mains input lead and park plug type e.h.t. output. Pris Pattery Triciele Charis
car Battery Trickle Charger, normal mains input, 12v. 1 amp output, totally encased with mounting terminatag with car battery size croc. clips. Price $8195+25 p$. Posit $25 \mathrm{p}+3 \mathrm{p}$.
lexible Drive $12^{\prime \prime}$ iong with threaded couplers at Flexible Drive 12 long with threaded couplers at each end. Price $22+16 \mathrm{p}$. Post $30 \mathrm{p}+3 \mathrm{p}$. $6 \frac{1}{2}_{\prime \prime} \times 3 \frac{1^{\prime \prime}}{2}, 2$ brass pillars for motor mounting ( $1 \cdot 9^{\prime \prime}$ fixing centres), first wheel made of flore, 3 other steel and brass wheels. Approx. 80 turns of fibre wheel give one turn of final drive shatt $40 \mathrm{p}+4 \mathrm{p}$. Relay 2 at 400 ohms and 1 at 570 ohms 7 sets of contacts, 3 of which are changeover, 2 others open when relay closes and the last 2 close when relay closes. Very versatile and useful relay. Price $11.00+8 \mathrm{p}$. Post $10 \mathrm{p}+1 \mathrm{p}$.
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Open Type Relay single screw mounting, 3 heary duty changeover contacts estimated at 10 amps, coil voltage 50v, AC, $20-25 v$. DC. Price 75p $+6 p$. Latching Relays. Two relays mounted together on
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Two relays are made to latch mechanically so Two relays are made to latch mechanically so its energising current is removed until the other one is energised, each relay has two pairs of heavy duty gold plated changeover contacts. Coil volts.
d8v. AC or $24 v . ~ D C . ~ P r i c e ~$
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# 15 HY5 

Preamplifier
The HY5 is a mono hybrid amplifier ideally sulted for all applications. All common input functions (mag Cartridge, tuner, etc) are catered for internally. The desired function is achieved either by a multi-way switch or direct connection to the appropriate pins. The internal volume and tone circuits merely requlre connecting to external potentiometers (not inciuded). The tion and mounting a P.C. connector is supplied with each pre-amplifier.
FEATURES: Complete pre-amplifier in single pack-Multi-function equalization-Low noiseLow distortion-High overload-Two simply combined for stereo.
APPLICATIONS: Hi-Fi-Mixers-Disco-Guitar and Organ-Public address SPECIFICATIONS:
INPUTS. Magnetic Pick-up 3 mV ; Ceramic Pick-up 30 mV ; Tuner 100 mV ; Microphone 10 mV ; Auxiliary $3-100 \mathrm{mV}$; input impedance $4 \cdot 7 \mathrm{ks}$ at 1 kHz .
ACTIVE TONE CONTROLS. Treble $\pm 12 \mathrm{~dB}$ at 10 kHz ; Bass $\pm$ at 100 Hz .
DISTORTION. $0.1 \%$ at 4 kHz . Signal/Noise Ratio 68dB
OVERLOAD 38 dB at
Price

## Price $£ 4 \cdot 75+59 p$ VAT P\&P free.

The HY30 is an exciting New kit from I.L.P. It features a virtually indestructible l.C. with short circuit and thermal protection. The kit consists of I.C., heatsink, P.C. board. 4 resistors, 6 capacitors, mounting kit, together with easy to foliow construction and operating Instructions echnology available. technology available.
Build
APPLICATIONS: Updating audio equipment-Gultar practice amplifier-mest amplifieraudio oscillator.
SPECIFICATIONS.
OUTPUT POWER 15 W R.M.S. into $8 \Omega$; DISTORTION $0.1 \%$ at 1.5 W .
INPUT SENSITIVITY 500 mV . FREQUENCY RESPONSE $10 \mathrm{~Hz}-16 \mathrm{kHz}-3 \mathrm{~dB}$.
SUPPLY VOLTAGE $\pm 18 \mathrm{~V}$.
Price $84 \cdot 75+59 p$ VAT P\&P free.
HY50
25 Watts into $8 \Omega$

The HY50 leads I.L.P.'s total integration approach to power amplifler design. The amplifier features an integral heatsink together with the simplicity of no external components. During the past three years the amplifier has been refined to the extent that it must be one of the most eliable and robust High Fidelity modules in the
FEATURES: Low Distortion-Integral Heatsink-Only five connections-7 amp output tran-istors-No external components
APPLICATIONS: Medium Power Hi-Fi systems-Low power disco-Guitar amplifier SPECIFICATIONS: INPUT SENSITIVITY 500mV
OUTPUT POWER 25 W RMS into $8 \Omega$ LOAD IMPEDANCE $4-46 \Omega$ DISTORTION $0.04 \%$ at 25 W at 1 kHz
(
SUPPLY VOLTAGE $\pm 25 \mathrm{~V}$ SIZE 1055025 mm
Price £6.20+77p VAT P\&P free.

HYI20
60 Watts into $8 \Omega$

The HY120 is the baby of I.L.P.'s new high power range. Designed to meet the most exacting requirements including load line and thermal protection this amplifier sets a new standard in modular design.
FEATURES : Very low distortion-Integral heatsink-Load line protection-Thermal protection -Five connections-No external components
APPLICATIONS : Hi-Fi-High quality disco-Public address-Monitor amplifier-Guitar and organ

## SPECIFICATIONS

NPUT SENSITIVITY 500 mV .
OUTPUT POWER 60W RMS into $8 \Omega$ LOAD IMPEDANCE 4-16 2 DISTORTION $0.04 \%$ at 60 W at 4 kHz
SIGNAL/NOISE RATIO 90dB FREQUENCY RESPONSE $10 \mathrm{~Hz}-45 \mathrm{kHz}-3 \mathrm{~dB}$ SUPPLY VOLTAGE SIZE 1145085 mm
Price $£ 14.40+£ 1.16$ VAT P\&P free.
The HY200 now improved to give an output of 120 Watts has been designed to stand the most rugged conditions such as disco or group while still refaining true Hi-Fl performance. FEATURES: Thermal shutdown-Very low distortion-Load line protection-integral heatsink - No external components

APPLICATIONS: Hi-Fi-Disco-Monitor-Power slave-Industrial-Public Address
SPECIFICATIONS
SPRCT SENSIIIVITY 500 mV
OUTPUT POWER 120W RMS into $8 \Omega$ LOAD IMPEDANCE 4-16』 DISTORTION $0.05 \%$ at 100W at 4 kHz . SigNA
$\pm 45 \mathrm{~V}$
SIZE 11410085 mm
Price £21.20+£1.70 VAT P\&P free.
The HY400 is I.L.P.'s "Big Daddy" ' of the range producing 240 W into $4 \Omega$ ! It has been designed for high power disco address applications. If the amplifier is to be used at continuous high of the family to lead the market as a true high power hi-fidelity power module quaities of the res the family to lead the market as a tue high po
240 Watts into $4 \Omega$

FEATURES: Thermal shutdown-Very low distortion-Load ine protection-No external

APPLICATIONS: Public address-Disco-Power slave-Industrial
SPECIFICATIONS
240W at 1 kHz ( 240 W RMS into $4 \Omega$ LOAD IMPEDANCE $4-16 \Omega$ DISTORTION $0.1 \%$ at SIGNAL NOISE RATIO 94dB FREQUENCY RESPONSE $10 \mathrm{~Hz}-45 \mathrm{kHz}-3 \mathrm{~dB}$ SUPPLY VOLTAGE $\pm 45 \mathrm{~V}$ INPUT SENSITIVITY 500 mV SIZE $114 \times 100 \times 85 \mathrm{~mm}$
Price $\mathbf{E} 29.25+£ 2.34$ VAT P\&P free.
POWER
PSU36 suitable for two HY30's $\mathbf{£ 4 . 7 5}$ plus 59p VAT. P/P free.
PSU50 suitable for two HY50's $\mathbf{\Sigma 6 . 2 0}$ plus 77p VAT, P/P free
PSU70 suitable for two HY120's $£ 12.50$ pius $£ 1.00$ VAT. P/P free.
PSU90 suitable for one HY200 $£ 11.50$ plus $£ 0 \cdot 92$ VAT. P/P free.


> Available June '76


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| 500 | 12.18 | 1.34 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 750 1000 | $18 \cdot 65$ 26.00 | O.A. | 30.80 37.77 | 1 | 二 | O.A. | 1.20 2.40 |
| 1000 1500 | $26 \cdot 00$ 29.65 | O.A. O.A. | 37.77 44.30 | 2 | 二 | O.A. | 2.40 3.80 |
| 2000 | 35.00 | O.A. | 51.85 | 1 | 1 | O.A. | 2.70 |
| 3000 | 55.00 | O.A. | 75.35 | 3 | 1 | O.A. | 5.90 |

CASED TYPES These are of extremely high quality to British Standard Specification, with resettable fused primary winding, and are fitted with covered outiet sockets. Housed In steel casea with carrying handles and 3 itt of 3 core cable.

Primary 240 V
Primary 240 V
Please state which voltage
$\begin{array}{lll}\text { Please state which voltage } \\ 12 \mathrm{VMPS} & \mathrm{P} & \mathrm{P} \text { \& } \mathrm{P}\end{array}$

| 12V | $\begin{aligned} & 5 \\ & 24 V \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ${ }^{2} 5$ | . 25 | $1 \cdot 30$ | 26 |
| 1 | - 5 | $1 \cdot 58$ | 45 |
| 2 | 1 | 2.05 | 45 |
| 4 | 2 | $2 \cdot 52$ | 62 |
| 6 | 3 | 3.76 | 62 |
| 8 | 4 | $4 \cdot 30$ | 85 |
| 10 | 5 | $4 \cdot 67$ | 85 |
| 12 | 6 | $4 \cdot 93$ | 98 |
| 16 | 8 | $6 \cdot 35$ | $1 \cdot 20$ |
| 20 | 10 | 9-27 | 1-20 |

MINIATURE TRANSFORMERE Primary voltage 240V Sec. volts mA PRICE PAP

| Sec. volts | mA | PRICE | PAP |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $3-0-3$ | 200 | $1 \cdot 37$ | 25 |
| $0-6 \times 2$ | $1 A$ | $1 \cdot 80$ | 45 |
| $0-9 \times 2$ | 330 | $1 \cdot 34$ | 26 |
| $0-9 \times 2$ | 500 | $1 \cdot 83$ | 45 |
| $0-9 \times 2$ | $1 A$ | $2 \cdot 60$ | 52 |
| $0-15 \times 2$ | 200 | $1 \cdot 30$ | 25 |
| $0-20 \times 2$ | 300 | $1 \cdot 72$ | 62 |
| $0-20 \times 2$ | $1 A$ | $3 \cdot 08$ | 72 |
| $0-15-27 \times 2$ | 1 A | $3 \cdot 86$ | 72 |

SPECIAL OFFER Primary $240 \mathrm{~V} . \quad$. 24 V . $500 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{amp}.\} 90 \mathrm{p}+45 \mathrm{p}, \mathrm{P} . \& \mathrm{P}$.
We manufacture Power Transformers to customers own special requlrements please send details of any Transformer you may require custom built. All querles must be accompanied by S.A.E.
PLEASE ADD 8\% V.A.T. TO TOTAL PRICE
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TANGENTIAL BLOWER HEATER 240 V 2 KW can be switched
speeds and
1 KW
Ro
Ro－ bust and efficient．Ap－ erture ${ }^{7 \frac{3}{3}{ }^{\prime \prime}} \times 1_{2}^{2}$ ，size C4． 25 plus p．\＆p． 75 p

DIGITAL DISPLAY INDICATOR by KGM，Type M4；window size ${ }^{\prime \prime \prime}$ ，wide， flange（ $\left(\frac{1}{2}{ }^{\prime \prime}\right.$ top and bottom）．This is an Acrylic edgelit unit illuminated by 12 V flange type bulbs（as our min．lamp type D ） Currently sold at $£ 14.00$ plus，our price
$£ 3.95$ inc．lamps．plus p．\＆p． 35 p ．
（1）

## MINIATURE LAMPS

## 

ARROW SWITCH
Press on／press off
single hole fixing
SP ST size $17^{\prime \prime} \times$ zin $^{\prime \prime}$ prestle extends $\frac{11^{\prime \prime}}{}$ ．Rated $2 \frac{1}{2}$ amps．Robust．Price for 5 （min qty．）${ }_{10} 1 \cdot 75$. or more

## MEM LIMIT SWITCH

Snap action 5 amps at $240 / 410$ A．C．size base $3 \overline{31}^{\prime \prime} \times 17^{\prime \prime}$ $x 1 \frac{3}{\prime \prime}^{\prime \prime}$ plus heavy duty roller plunger $1 \frac{1}{\prime \prime \prime}$ ext，or $1^{\prime \prime}$ when
compressed．Very robust for tireless operation， compressed．Very robust for tireless operation， weather proof．Price $£ 2 \cdot 20$ plus p．\＆p．25p
RELAYS
Octal base $2 \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{O} 6 \mathrm{amp}$ contacts following voltages： 12 V a．c． 48 V d．c． 110 d．c． 230 a．c．，all $£ 1 \cdot 25$ each pius base 11 －pin $3 \mathrm{C} / 06 \mathrm{amp}$ contacts，following 11－pin $3 \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{O}_{6} \mathrm{amp}$ contacts，following voltages： 115 a．c． 48 d．c． 24 d．c．al
at $£ 1.50$ each，base 15 p plus 15 p
$10 \mathrm{K.W}$. ISOLATION TRANSFORMER Prim．200－240V sec． $120-0-120 \mathrm{~V}$ ，size $18^{\prime \prime} \times 15^{\prime \prime} \times 26^{\prime \prime}$ high，weight approx．250lbs．Price 1110 inc．VAT delivery charge at cost


NORPLEX COPPERCLAD FIBREGLASS
First grade material． 1 \＆ 2 oz．copper size $43^{\prime \prime} \times 37^{\prime \prime}$ thickness double．sided $1 / 32^{12} 1 / 15^{\prime \prime} / s^{\prime \prime} 1 / 32^{\prime \prime}$ ．single sided $1 / 32^{\prime 2} s^{64}$ all types e10 per sheet．Carriage 22 one
sheet plus 50p additional sheets（G．B．）．

THUMBWHEEL EDGE SWITCHES

（Plessey）ten position 0－9（single pole ten way） modular，any number may
be banked．Contact rating 2a．A．C．or D．C raling 2a．A．C．or D．C．＇colour
black．size overall 52.58 high $\times 12$ wlde $\times 49 \mathrm{~mm}$ deep．P．C．pitch 156.
Price $£ 1 \cdot 50$ per unit，end Price $£ 1 \cdot 50$ per unit，end
mounting cheeks $£ 1 \cdot 00$ per pair，p．\＆p．30p any order．


## MAINS SOLENOIDS

This litile unit gives vertical $i$ int of approx－
in． hinged＂elbow＇．Bracket incotporates 2 fixing
 $2 \frac{1}{2} 240 \mathrm{~V}$ ．a．c．Pulf at coil is approximately 1 lb ．Price \＆1． 25 plus p．\＆p．20p．
ALL PRICES INCLUDE V．A．T．
Whilst we welcome official orders from established companies and Educational Departments，it is no longer practical to invoice goods under $£ 10$ ．Therefore，

## MUFFIN＇＇PANCAKE＇FANS

 As used in computers and other installations where silent con－ tinuous efficient cooiing is needed．These fans are 115 V ． 50 Hz drawing only 14 watts $4 \frac{3}{4} \times 4 \frac{3}{4 \prime \prime} \times 13^{\prime \prime}$ ．They can be dropping resistor can be supplied for 50 p ．ONLY $£ 6.50$ plus p ．\＆ or 50p．ONLY $26 \cdot 50$ plus p．\＆$p$SPRITE＂PANCAKE＂FANS Simllar to＇Muffin＇，physicaliy smaller，drawing only 9 watts but still giving extremely high efficiency with minimum fuss． from 240 V a，c．dropping resistor supplied for 50 p ．Size： 3 ．$x$ $3 \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}} \times 1 \frac{5^{\prime \prime}}{}$ ．（Large quantity avail－ abie，special quotations）．ONLY £4．50 plus p．\＆p．50p．
6 DIGIT 24 V d．c．COUNTER Non re－set 3 watts，size $1 \frac{15}{\prime \prime} \times 1^{\prime \prime} \times$
$13 / 16^{\prime \prime}$ ．Brand new．Plastic encased． $13 / 16^{\prime \prime}$ ．Brand new．Plastic encased．
Price £2． 25 pius p．\＆p． 25 p．
240 V for instant heat and speedy soldering． 100 watts， built in spot lamp．Price £3．50 plus p．\＆p．50p．
BENDIX MAGNETIC CLUTCH
A superb example of Electro－ mechanics！The main body is is fixed and has a $\frac{3}{\square} i n$ sleeve．The drive section rotating on the plate has $\frac{3}{2}$ in ID bearing con centric with main section and 18－tooth cog wheel．When energized transmission is ex－ remely powerful， 24 V d．c．a 240 MA ．Our price just £2． 70
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PROGRAMME TIMER


12 bank．cam operated micro switçhes，infinitely variable switching 240 V ． per rev）．Price 88.95 plus p．\＆p． 70 p ．
SHADED POLE GEARED MOTORS $110 \mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{n}} \mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{m}} \mathrm{m}_{\text {．}}$
240 a．c．，high Torque， approximate overall size $3 \frac{1 ⿻ コ 一^{\prime \prime}}{} \times 3 \frac{11^{\prime \prime}}{} \times 22^{\prime \prime}$ and spindle dia．$\frac{1}{2}^{\prime \prime}$ ．Price $£ 3 \cdot 50$ plus p．\＆p．50p．


## SYLVANIA SWITCH

Complete with magnet．
normally closed，$\frac{3}{3}$ amp
vacuum sealed． $1 \frac{1}{4}$ long
$\frac{1 / 2}{\prime \prime}$ dia．
10 for $£ 2 \cdot 50,50$ for $£ 11 \cdot 00$ ．
100 for $£ 18 \cdot 00$ plus p．\＆p．
30 p ．for 10 to 100 ．
LIGHT DEPENDENT RESISTORS
Matched pairs，Pioneer type 174 similar to orp 12 resistance 1 K to 40K，dia $\frac{1}{6}$ with $\frac{1}{2}$ fanges． 21 ． 50 for two pairs（minimum） 10 or more pairs 50．per pair
EDGECONNECTORS（CINCH）
Single contact sockets， 27 way 15 ，can be cut to length，moveable end mounts． 10 pieces（minimum） for $£ 4 \cdot 00$ plus p．\＆p． 25 p．

## ELECTRO－TECH <br> 317 and 364 EDGWARE RD．， LONDON，W2． <br> Tel：01－723 5667 01－402 5580

 COMPONENTS LTD．VISIT OUR NEW BIGGER AND BETTER SHOP－NOW OPEN AT 364 FOR A WIDE RANGE WE ARE OPEN 9－6 MON．TO SAT．

## Crimsan Elaktrik <br> HIGH POWER AUDIO AMPLIFIER MODULES THE ONLY TRUE HI－FI MODULES AVAILABLE

| UNCOLOURED SOUND FROM CRIMSON | CE60 | 60 W．r．m．s．／8® $£ 44.5$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| In the design particular attention has been | 10 | 100 W．r．m．s．$/ 4 \Omega$ £ 1 |  |
| pard to the transient response．With a sensible rise－time of $8 \mu \mathrm{~s}$ ，an exception | ＊T．H．D． $03 \%$ typical up to rated power， 1 kHz ． <br> ＊Frequency resporise $12 \mathrm{~Hz},-35 \mathrm{kHz} .-3 \mathrm{~dB}$ ． |  |  |
| slewing－rate of $6 \mathrm{v} / \mathrm{\mu}$ ，and only 40 dB ．of fee |  |  |  |
| back．transient intermodulation distortion minimised．A two pole Zobel network gives | ＊Unconditionally stable |  |  |
| minimised．A two pole Zobel network gives | Signal to noise ratio＞110 dB． |  |  |
| ing ina settling－t time of 15 ps for $8 \cap \\| 2$ | ＊Sensitivity 250 mv ，into 56 k ת ． |  |  |
| Send cheque／fo． | 14 transistors 4 diodes． |  |  |
| SAE for CRIMSON．ELEKTRIK | ＊Fully protected－load line sensing． |  |  |
|  | ＊D．C．coupled，suitable for $\pm 15$ to 35 v ． |  |  |
| $\begin{aligned} \text { seas } \\ \text { s. wer } \end{aligned}$ | ＊Small size－only $80 \times 120 \times 25 \mathrm{~mm}$ ． |  |  |
| 0533－386211 LEICESTER | Fully tested and guaranteed． |  |  |

OVER 2，000 ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS INA



The 450 Tuner provides instant programme selection at the touch of a button ensuring accurate tuning of 4 pre－selected stations，any of which may be altered as often as you choose，by simply changing the settings of the pre－set controls．
Used with your existing audio equipment or with the BI－KITS STEREO 30 or the MK60 Kit etc．Alternatively the PS12 can be used if no suitable supply is available，together with the Trans－ former 7461.
The S450 is supplied fully built，tested and aligned． The unit iseasily in stalled using the simple instructions supplied．



## 25 Watts

（RMS）
－Max Heat Sink temp． $\mathbf{8 0 C}$ ．Frequency response $\mathbf{2 0 H z}$ ． －Distortion belter than 0.1 at $1 \mathbf{k H z}$ ．Supply voltage 15 ． 50 v ．Thermal Feedback．OLatest Design Improvements． －Load－3，4，5，or $160 h m s$ ．OSignal to noise ratio 80 db ． Overall size 63 mm ． 13 mm ．
Especially designed to a strict specification．Only the finest components have been used and the latest solid－ state circuitry incorporated in this powerful little amplifier which should satisfy the most critical A．F．enthusiast．

$$
{ }_{\text {onLy }}^{\text {most }} \mathbf{2} 5.45
$$

## Stabilised Power Supply Type SPM80

SPM80 is especially designed to power 2 of the AL60 Amplifiers，up to 15 watts（r．m．s．）per channel simul－ taneously，With the addition of the Mains Transformer BMT80，the unit will provide outputs of up to 1.5 A at 35 V ． Size： $63 \mathrm{~mm}, 105 \mathrm{~mm}, 30 \mathrm{~mm}$ ．Incorporating short circuit protection．
INPUT VOLTAGE 33－40V．A．C．
OUTPUT VOLTAGE 33V．D．C．Nominal OUTPUT CURRENT OVERLEAD CURRENT $10 \mathrm{~mA}-1.5$ amps $£ 3.00$
1.7 amps approx．
$105 \mathrm{~mm} \times 63 \mathrm{~mm} \times 30 \mathrm{~mm}$
TRANSFORMER BMT80 $£ 2 \cdot 60+62$ p．postage
$\star$ FET Input Stage
丸 VARI－CAP diode tuning
\＆Switched AFC
※ Multi turn pre－sets
＊LED Stereo Indicator

Typical Specification： Sensitivity $3 \mu$ volts Stereo separation 30db Supply required 20－30v at 90 Ma max．

## 

$\qquad$

## 

A top quality stereo pre－amplifier and tone control unit．The six push－button selector switch provides a choice of inputs together with two really effective filters for high and low fre－ quencies，plus tape output．

Frequency Response + IdB $20 \mathrm{~Hz}-20 \mathrm{KHz}$ ．
Sensitivity of inputs：
f．Tape Input 100 mV into
100 K ohms
2．Radio Tun
2． 100 K ohms $\mathrm{T} \mathbf{0} \mathrm{mV}$ into
3．Magnetic P．U．3mV into P．SOK ohms P．U．3mV into P．U．Input equalizes to R1AA curve within fds from 20 Hz to
$20 \mathrm{KHz}, \mathrm{Supply} 20-35 \mathrm{Y}$ at 20 m 20KHz，Supply $20-35 \mathrm{~V}$ at 20 mA ． Dimensions－ $209 \mathrm{~mm} \times 59 \mathrm{~mm} \times$ \＆ Comprising：
Comprising： $2 \times$ AL60＇s $1 \times S P M 80,1 \times$ BTM80， $1 \times$ PA100， 1 front panel and knobs． 1 Instruction booklet．Complo switch，neon indlcator，stereo headphone sockets ofis TEAK 60 AUDIO KIT：
TELETE PRICE $£ 27 \cdot 55$ plus $62 p$ postage． Comprising：Teak vene
aluminlum chass／s，veneered cabinet size $164^{\prime \prime} \times 111^{\prime \prime} \times 3{ }^{3 \prime \prime}$＂，other parts include rlate sockets etc．KIT PRICE £8－20 plus $62 p$ postage．


## $7+7$ WATTS R．M．S．

The Stereo 30 comprises a complete stereo pre－amplifier，power ampllfiers wIII produce a high qu，with only the addition of a transformer amplifiers Inputs lie．high quality ceramic pick suitable for use with a wide range of Simple to Install，capable of produck－up，stereo tuner，stereo tape deck etc Is supplled with full instructions，black really first class results，this unit fuse and fuse holder and universal mounting panel，knobs，mains switch， stallod in a record plinth，cabinets of your own construction enabit to be in－ available．Ideal for the begInner or the advanced construction or the cabinet i performance with a minimum of installation difficuctor who requires Hi－ dificuity can be installed
TRANSFORMER \＆2．45
TEAK CASE \＆3． 65 pIus $62 p p \& p$ ．$p$ 分

# NOW BI－PAK BRINGS YOU－ The AL80 

 $35{ }^{\text {RNS }}$ power Amp！
## ONLY

£6．95
$+8 \%$ VAT
A High Fidelity Power Amplifier with a maxi－ mum Power Output of 35 watt R．M．S．， which has a maximum operating voltage of 60 v ．A MUST for all HI－FI users．
Maximum supply voltage
Power output for $2 \%$ THD
Harmonic distortion
Load impedance
Input impedance
Frequency response +3 dB
Sensitivity for 25 watts $O / P$
Max．Heat sink temperature
Dimensions
Mounting
Fuse requirements

[^1]3－8－16 ohm
50 K ohm
$20 \mathrm{~Hz}-40 \mathrm{KHz}$
280 mV R．M．S．
$90^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$
$102 \mathrm{~mm} \times 64 \mathrm{~mm} \times 15 \mathrm{~mm}$
$2,4 \mathrm{BA}$ fixing holes in heat sink 1．5A


Enjoy the quality of a magnetic cartridge with your existing ceramic equipment using the new Bi－Pak M．P．A． 30 which is a high quality pre－amplifier enabling magnetic cartridges to be used where facilities exist for the use of ceramic cartridges only． Used in conjunction are 4 low noise， high gain silicon transistors．It is pro－ vided with a standard DIN input socket for ease of connection．Supplied with full，easy－to－follow instructions．

Specially designed for use in－
Disco Units，P．A．Systems，high power
$\mathrm{Hi}-\mathrm{Fi}$ ，Sound reinforcement systems SPECIFICATION：

Output Power： 125 watt RMS Continuous
Operating voltage：50－80
Loads：4－16 ohms
Frequency response： 25 Hz － 20 kHz ：Measured at 100 watts
Sensitivity for 100 watts output at $1 \mathrm{kHz}: 450 \mathrm{mV}$
input impedance： 33 K ohms

Total harmonic distortion 50 watts into 4 ohms： $0.1 \%$ 50 watts into 8 ohms： $0.06 \%$ $\mathrm{S} / \mathrm{N}$ ratio：better than 80 dBs Damping factor， 8 ohms： 65
Semiconductor complement：13 transistors 5 diodes
Overall size：Heatsink width 190 mm ，length 205 mm ，height 40 mm

# ONLY £15．95 ${ }_{\text {＋8\％VaI }}$ 



HISTORICALLY this magazine has always been biased towards radio communications of one sort or another and this is not surprising when you realise we were born on the back of the cat's whisker when the only contact the amateur had with electronics was through the subject of radio and allied matters. The trouble with electronics is that it is one of the most dynamic of the sciences and is constantly broadening its boundaries to provide applications in areas totally removed from what we normally think of as radio.

It would be shortsighted of us if we stuck our heads in the sand and ignored the widening scope available to us. In the past we have received criticisms that we were too much "radio orientated" but was this necessarily a bad thing? After all that is what our name implies! Nevertheless our more established readers will have sensed a change in our policy over the last eight to ten years because it is in this period that we have made great efforts to move into the more general area of electronics. At the same time we have tried to bring a more rational approach to our designs. No longer do we rely on the "junk box"; we try to avoid designs that are birds nest entanglements; the valve (sadly to some of us) is virtually eliminated from our projects; we have introduced the "Easybuild" projects which, although they may be complex concepts, are perfectly straightforward for the home constructor-with limited test resources-to make. More recently it will have been noticed that we are favouring printed circuit designs not only because they leave little possibility for error but because they enable the amateur to make equipment of greater aesthetic appeal. Our Readers' PCB Service has shown how popular this move proved to be!

Without wanting to be complacent we feel that few people would quarrel with this policy of diversification and improvement (apart from the demise of the valve!). We are not, however, without problems and dilemmas. Each month we try to provide as broad a based coverage as possible to please as many readers as we can but within the number of pages there is a limit to what can be published in any one month.

Ideally we would like to cater for the beginner, the established "Ham", the Hi-Fi enthusiast, the disc jockey, the motorist, the photographer, the intellec-
tual and the practical handyman all at the same time but this just is not possible. The problem is compounded by the nature of our projects. On the whole we try to publish designs in their entirety in a single issue but this would immediately debar worthwhile projects such as organs, discotheque systems and other more sophisticated projects like our VideoWriter, which is now in its second part.

We have to continually ask ourselves "should we avoid complex projects just to attempt to please all people all of the time?" We have to assess whether there is likely to be enough appeal for a project to make it a worthwhile proposition; but what is the criterion of a worthwhile project? Should the decision be based on its novelty value, its economics, whether 100 or 10,000 people are likely to make it, or its intrinsic educational value? By and large we try to work on these four basic criteria giving most emphasis to novelty and educational value. Unfortunately electronics is developing at such a rate that educational projects, although desirable, tend to be expensive because they inevitably verge towards the new approach with expensive components. This does not necessarily mean that they are not good value for money but we know that projects costing more than ten or twenty pounds tend to be outside the scope of most readers-particularly if they are relatively inexperienced and loath to take a gamble on their own abilities. (Perhaps our Easybuild policy coupled with the PCB Service helps a bit in that direction!)

In our own minds novelty is a prime requisite for all our projects but is the most difficult to achieve. Most of our regular contributors will know that designing a project is only a small problem compared with coming up with an original idea. Radio is, perhaps, one of the most difficult subjects into which to inject novelty-because it has been around for such a long time-and this brings us back to the beginning of the piece. Without diversification we feel our pages would soon become repetitive and boring but how far and in what way should we diversify?

The important thing is that we satisfy YOU the reader and the only way we can do this is via a touch of positive feedback. If you have an axe to grind on the subject why not write in and let us know of your criticisms and/or suggestions.

## Doram's catalogue amendment leaflet

DORAM ELECTRONICS LIMITED, the Leeds-based mail-order distributor of electronic components, kits and radio/hi-fi accessories specifically servicing amateur radio, electronics and hi-fi enthusiasts, announce the introduction of their catalogue amendment leaflet.

The range of "simple-to-construct" kits has also been extended. These are ideal for the beginner and experienced amateur alike. For further information please contact: Frank Chable, Doram Electronics Limited, P.O. Box TR8, Wellington Road Industrial Estate, Wellington Bridge, Leeds, LS12 2UF. Tel. Leeds (0532) 34222.

## Fiji enters space age

The picture shows the 105 ft diameter dish aerial of the earth station at Wailoku, Fiji. Speaking at the opening ceremony recently, Mr. H. Lillicrap, Chairman of Cable and Wireless said, "We expect that within the next decade the volume of international telephone and telex will have increased more than 6 -fold."

Operating through an Intelsat IV communication s atellite, 22,300 miles over the Pacific, the station provides direct links with both Australia and New Zealand. If needed, further links can be added to places as far apart as Hong Kong and Canada, in the third of the world covered by the Pacific satellite.

## Physics for the 1980s <br> TTHE Institute of Physics Education Group, with the Association for Science

 Education, has arranged a conference on School Physics for the 1980s. It is to be held at Worcester College of Further Education from 1800hr on Friday, September 10th to 1300 hr on Sunday, September 12th 1976. Changes in school organisation, the rapid development of comprehensive schools, teaching methods involving mixed ability groups, changes in exams and the relationship between science and society are sufficient guarantee that the place and content of physics courses in schools during the next decade will be significantly different from what they are today-these are the issues the conference will consider. Further details and application forms may be obtained from the Meetings Officer, The Institute of Physics, 47 Belgrave Square, London SW1.
## New catalogue

MARSHALLS of Cricklewood tell us that they will soon be issuing their new catalogue which comprises 158 pages. It's supposed to be a "bumper" edition, twice the size of their previous one and contains such gems as a new opto section, new range of tools, more semiconductors, a range of varistors and many new accessories. Personal callers can get their catalogue for 30 p but if ordered by post, it costs 35 p.


## P.W. Video-writer

TT E have been informed by Marshalls of Cricklewood Broadway, London NW2, that they are offering a special price reduction to $P W$ readers of manufacturers brand components. They are able to supply 6 kits of parts comprising semiconductors and passive components. For example, kit No. 5 comprises the six Texas RAM's and one G.I. ROM for $£ 20 \cdot 30$ (including VAT and $\mathbf{P} \& P$ ). Telephone Marshalls or any of their branches for further details.

TECHNOMATIC Limited, 54 Sandhurst Road, London, NW9 inform us that they are able to supply memories for our Video-Writer project. Type 2102-2 (1 or 2) 4-bit static RAM is $£ 3$ including VAT. Type RO-3-2513 ROM (character generator) is $£ 8 \cdot 50$ inc. VAT.

## Super hush

AWHILE AGO, JVC introduced their ANRS automatic noise reduction system for reducing background noise and hiss. This wellestablished system has now been superseded by an even better system known as Super ANRS. Advantage of the new system is that in addition to eliminating tape hiss, it also reduces the distortion caused by too-high recording levels.

JVC claim that with Super ANRS, signal-to-noise ratio is improved and frequency response widened up to 20 kHz . The dynamic range of cassette tapes is also extended.

One of the drawbacks of the system is that Super ANRS recorded tapes must be played back on a suitably equipped Super ANRS machine. Also it is difficult to edit the tapes recorded by this method.-JVC (UK) Limited, Eldonwell Trading Estate, Staples Corner, 6.8 Priestley Way, London, NW2 7AF.

# P1 Vamablea.f.SOURCE N.B.NAUGHTON 

THIS UNIT provides an audio frequency output continuously variable over the range 18 Hz to 18 kHz . Its output is a square wave having a virtually constant amplitude and mark/space ratio at all frequencies. Although the use of TTL i.c.'s makes these desirable qualities available, the unit was designed as a useful, wide range, A.F. source and not as a precision instrument.

A particularly useful feature of the Octavia is its ability to provide a signal exactly one octave removed from the set frequency, by the action of a single switch, whilst in use. The output level and waveform, including rise time, remain as the original signal.

## PRINCIPLE OF OPERATION

The design is, perhaps, unusual in that the oscillator frequency is not the frequency indicated by the dial. This is because the waveform of the type of oscillator used varies with frequency, so it provides a variable frequency trigger source only.

The output waveforms are produced by triggering an SN7473 i.c. which contains two J-K Master-Slave bistables. The first divides the oscillator frequency by two and provides the indicated output, the second divides the indicated output by two and gives the signal removed by one octave. Fig. 1 shows the relationships between the oscillator and the divided signals.

To prevent any effects of output loading, the signal is fed to the output socket via buffer amplifiers. These are provided by an SN7400 quad gate i.c.
D.C. coupling of signals is used throughout to avoid reactive degradation and to ensure satisfactory performance when driving T.T.L. circuits.


## THE CIRCUIT

The two semiconductor integrated circuits perform the major functions of the unit and these items, plus the discrete components required, are shown in Fig. 2. which is the complete schematic diagram of the circuit.

The oscillator has been described in an earlier $\dot{\mathrm{P} W}$ issue and, assuming range capacitor Cl has been selected, its action is as follows. On switching on, the initial high current through R1 to charge Cl turns $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ hard on. The collector voltage of Trl



Fig. 2. The commfele circut for the uni including the components mounted off the board.
is insufficient to allow $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ to conduct. As the charging current decreases, the collector current of Trl also decreases and its collector voltage rises to a level where $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ can commence conduction. This turnon process becomes cumulative with capacitor Cl now discharging through Tr2, VR1 and R3. The voltage developed across VR1 and R3 progressively cuts off Tr1, its collector rises and increases the drive to Tr2. This build-up continues until the voltage developed across R4, coupled with the rapid discharging of C 1 , biases Tr 2 into cut off. The cycle then repeats.
Within any range, variations in frequency are dependent on the resistance between the emitter of Tr 2 and the base of Trl. However, if the value is too low, oscillation will not be maintained. A fixed resistor, R 3 , is included to ensure that the minimum is never reached.
The collector voltage of $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ provides the triggering pulses for one section of IC1, being applied to pin 1. The $\overline{\mathrm{Q}}$ output at pin 13 drives the second half input, pin 5. The Q outputs of both halves are fed independently to buffers. Pin 12, the first half, to IC2 pins $4,5,9$ and 10 , whilst pin 9 is taken to IC2 pins 1,2 12 and 13. The outputs of IC2 on pins 3 and 6 are available, by selection at S2, for outputs of the unit. Pin 6 of IC2 is the indicated frequency and pin 3 is half that indicated on the dial. Although all four sections of IC2 are driven no outputs are taken from pins 8 or 11. They are, of course, available for future development by the constructor. The output of the buffers is developed across VR2 which enables the unit to be used with significantly less than the normal output.

The unit is powered by a 9 V battery and, to provide the 5 V required for the TTL, Tr3, R6, D1 and C4 act as a series stabiliser.

## $\star$ components list



## CONSTRUCTION

Most of the components are mounted on a small printed circuit board, shown full size as Fig. 3. The switches and potentiometers are mounted on the front panel and the range capacitors are mounted between Sl and VR1. The position of the capacitors enables easy removal and replacement to obtain the correct frequency coverage. If tight tolerance capacitors were used they could be mounted anywhere.


The assembly of the components to the board presents no difficulty, but, as always, care must be taken to ensure that the integrated circuits are inserted the correct way round before soldering. The use of ic sockets would not prevent incorrect insertion but it would make changing easy.

The box for the unit can be any size, shape or material provided the following two points are taken into account, firstly that the oscillator component leads are kept electrically remote from the output wiring either by physical separation or by screening and secondly that the smaller the front panel the smaller the frequency setting dial.

When selecting a battery to power the unit it should be noted that current consumption of the I.C.s can vary from device to device. Typically, as with the authors unit, this will be about 30 mA but it can be considerably higher and the use of a PP9 battery would be an advantage if space permits.

## CALIBRATION

If access to an array of test equipment is available, calibration is simple. Just connect the output of the unit to a counter or 'scope, switch on, set to a suitable frequency and mark the dial.

If test equipment is limited, two other methods are available. The first calls for a receptive musical ear and a well tuned piano or organ and relies on matching notes. Tables relating notes to frequency are readily available. The second requires a "standard" audio note, say 400 Hz , an audio amplifier and a tape recorder. The setting up sequence then becomes:Switch on the standard source. Set the Octavia to the same frequency by beating the two outputs together. Switch off the standard. Switch the Octavia to F/2 and tape the output (this will be, of course, 200 Hz ). Using the tape recording as the standard repeat the process to identify 100 Hz etc. By reversing the roles of $F$ and $F / 2$, points on the dial corresponding to $800 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1.6 \mathrm{kHz}$ etc can be made. Intermediate settings can be obtained by interpolation.

## CONCLUSION

There are numerous occasions when the home constructor requires an audio signal of known frequency for comparison purposes or for driving dividers, multipliers or amplifiers and the Octavia provides an extremely compact and trouble free method of satisfying those requirements.

## ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

## $008 ?$

Followers of James Bond will recall that in Goldfinger, our Jim had a rather special motor car. One of its features was a map which could be used to "track" another vehicle, the other vehicle showing up as a point of light on the road map itself.

We may not be quite up to Jim's standard but we are getting closer, or rather a British company is. They have introduced an ingenious system called "Landfall". Just so that you can show off to your friends, this stands for Links And Nodes Database For Automatic Land Vehicle Location-So there!

First, what does it do? Well, it can locate a vehicle anywhere in Essex and pinpoint it to within 10 metres. A digital processor is used to store all information about the road system in the particular area (we are taking Essex as an example but it could equally well apply to any equivalent area).

The system regards the layout of the roads in its area as a network. Each intersection is termed a Node. Exits from the Nodes are termed Ports. Roads joining the Nodes and Ports are called Links. Every Node and every Port has a special indentification number and the distances of all Links in the area are entered and stored. So our memory knows all the points, intersections-in fact everything it needs to accurately plot a position within the area covered.

Vehicles equipped to use the system (such as police cars) have special sensors which provide data on direction and distance travelled. Immediately the vehicle starts its journey, the driver enters his starting Node/Port information into the processor. This is then an automatic continuous process and the processor is continually updated as the location of the vehicle in terms of Ports and Nodes. The information is automatically transmitted to a central control complex and thus a person there could see at a glance the position of all vehicles in the area. They could also see exactly how far a vehicle was from any other point, the direction the vehicle was moving and have an idea of speed etc.

The system is currently being tested and the photograph shows the inside of one of the vehicles. Other equipment used in this study includes an alpha numeric keyboard and display unit, alpha numeric printer, numeric code display and keyboard unit, and a "touch" map.

## BRAILLE CALCS . . .

So many people possess electronic calculators these days that their novelty has largely worn off. However, two types which are now being shown in America might be worth a moment's thought. They have been specially designed and built for blind people.

The first type has conventional

keys arranged in a conventional pattern. The "readout" comprises an array of tiny solenoids which drive small pins. The solenoids and pins are arranged to take up a very small area and are laid out in two columns of three pins in each column. The solenoids are activated by the calculator electronics and the relevant pins for Braille readout are then raised and can be "read" by touch.

When the blind person wants to know the readout (there is also a conventional one at the top of the calculator) he/she simply presses a readout button and the contents of the visual readout are selected, one at a time in the correct order, and fed to the solenoids and thus to the readout pins.

One snag which the designers encountered was that some blind people read faster than others. So the solution was to incorporate a speed control for the readout pins which allows them to give anything from one digit every half second, to one digit every four seconds. The calculator is battery-operated and employs rechargeable batteries.

## P.O. RESEARCH

The British Post Office does more than just deliver letters to your door. At its research laboratories there are a number of interesting experiments taking place. One, is to replace carbon granules in a carbon microphone with a plastic diaphragm. The plastic (take a deep breath and then say "polyvinyl-flouride") contains a permanent electrical charge and the membrane of plastic is vibrated by the speech waves to produce minute electrical signals. These are then fed to a solid state amplifier. One possibility is that the new microphones will make telephone handsets of the future smaller and lighter. Presumably, when you hold on for the operator it will save you a lengthy weight!

Cimbers

# AGTIVE ROTATING AERIAL <br>  

THIS aerial provides "portable" reception of medium waveband signals, Top Band, and other transmissions up to a frequency of approximately $2 \cdot 6 \mathrm{MHz}$. It can substitute for an extended or long wire aerial for Amateur or other reception, when the receiver is used in situations where a wire aerial is not available. It can also give improved reception in terms of reducing background noise, which can be severe at some times of day with a long wire on the 160 m band, while the directional effects are also helpful on occasions in reducing the strength of interfering signals from a particular direction.

It is intended for use with mains or battery operated communications receivers, and similar receivers which rely on an external aerial, so that they may be operated without a conventional aerial and earth. It could in some cases be coupled to a portable type radio, to improve reception of weak signals.

The ferrite aerial L1, Fig. 1, is tuned by VC2 with C2 in series for the higher frequency band. This gives a low minimum capacitance and reduced swing, and covers about 1150 to 2600 kHz . Switch

S 1 is closed for the lower frequency band, which connects VC1 and Cl across L1. This band is approximately $550-1150 \mathrm{kHz}$. There are no circuits to gang, tuning being adjusted manually for best reception.

L2 couples to IC1, while gain is controlled by VR1. This allows signal strength to be reduced where local signals may overload the receiver. Output to the receiver is from the isolating capacitor C6, and the unit operates from its own 9 V battery. If preferred, it is in order to use a 6 V supply but R 8 is then omitted.

## Front and Case

The member carrying VR1, turning capacitor, and Sl is a $127 \times 51 \mathrm{~mm}$ piece of aluminium, with a flange to which the insulated board can be bolted as in Fig. 2. VC1/2 is held by three 4BA bolts, which must not project beyond the thickness of the capacitor frame. The front of the plastic box is also held by the bolts fitting $\mathrm{Sl}, \mathrm{VCl} / 2$, and the nut of VR1, so it is as well to drill the box at the same time. Note that the metal panel fits up to the top


## components list


of the box, so that the jack plug and brackets securing it come inside the box as in Fig. 3.

The box or case is $162 \times 82 \times 58 \mathrm{~mm}$, and readers should take care, as boxes of this type are often brittle, although quite strong, and sharp tools, used with care, should always be used to ensure that the material is not cracked. The box could be painted inside, before use.

## Circuit Board

Components on top of the board are placed as in Fig. 3. The IC should be soldered in last, and its leads must conform to the diagram shown in Fig. 3. Two backets are bolted to the underside of the board, to match the tags of the plug, as in Fig. 2. One bracket, marked MC in Fig. 2, is in contact with the metal panel and negative line. This provides the plug sleeve, or outer circuit. The other bracket is bolted to the insulated board, and connected to C6. These brackets should give a firm mounting, so that the whole can rotate without wobble.

## Ferrite Aerial

Two strips of insulating material are cut, and fixed to small brackets, to support the rod as in

Fy. 2, Fopsite vieur giving detaths of the contrectons requir. qd for YRI, VC1, $V \mathrm{Co}$ and the Fernte aerial.


Frg, 3. The understoce wirmeg of the matry $9 \cdot 15 / \mathrm{N}$, matrix pefforated beara. The pim comnectuons for the integrated vircuit Iだ are strown.


Overalf fictlograbe taken from the reat showing the favout of the cose and the method used to provide the rotation.

Figs. 2 and 4. The rod rests in a notch, and is held with thread.

The beginning of the tuned winding Ll, point 1 , runs to S1, and the end point 2, to the frame of the tuning capacitor. The small coupling winding, L2 points 3 and 4, is connected to R3 and R1, R2, C3. Since this circuit is tuned individually, it does not have to align with other circuits, and the winding is simply placed to give suitable coverage. To avoid the need to have $L 2$ at the very end of the rod, twenty-two turns are removed from Ll. These turns are unwound at end 1 . The wire consists of several strands of fine gauge conductor, insulated from each other (Litz) and for proper efficiency all strands must be soldered, and none broken.

With the turning arrangements described, the modified aerial tunes from 550 kHz to 2600 kHz . The simplest means of adjustment is to tune the receiver to a signal at the LF end of the MW band, close VC1/2, and position L1/2 on the rod to tune this signal in at maximum strength. To simplify tuning, a card scale marked with frequencies should be fitted. These can be taken from the receiver dial, by tuning the active aerial unit to peak up signals or noise, then marking its scale to agree with the receiver.

## Base Mounting

This is made from a plastic plant pot dish deep enough to accommodate the jack socket with a plywood disc glued and bolted on to strengthen it. It is also advantageous to secure some lead weights inside the dish, to make the whole thing more stable.

A communications or similar type of receiver will generally have provision for a screened co-axial aerial lead although it is not essential to use this type of lead, as two separate insulated wires may also be used. A screened lead should not be unnecessarily long, or of small-diameter microphone or
similar cable, as this can introduce unnecessary RF losses.

The directional effects of the ferrite rod result in maximum signal pick-up when the rod is at rightangles to the bearing of the transmitter. Directivity is not sharp, especially as the unit is not screened against stray pick-up by wiring, but directional


W253
Fig. 4. Sectioned drawing of the case and base. Note the lead weights fixed to the under side of the base to provide a rigid mount for the aerial.
effects will be shown by the receiver tuning meter, as the active aerial unit is rotated. If there is no tuning meter, rotate the aerial if necessary for best reception of the wanted signal, and least interference, as the receiver AVC action will mask the influence of directivity on many signals, when judging receiver audio output volume by ear.

# ERTELLTET ELCLCLIEGTLDE Brian DANCE M.Sc 


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 present state of operation (or non-operation). This part will detl whow be UK ground



## GOONHILLY

The ground station in England used for satellite communications is at Goonhilly in Cornwall near to the site of Marconi's original radio telegraph station. Goonhilly and Etam (USA) handle the largest volumes of traffic of all earth stations. Goonhilly began commercial operation on June 28th, 1965, with a steerable aerial in a 90 foot dish reflector. In its first year it had 24 telephone circuits and carried some 40,000 calls-less than a tenth of all intercontinental calls to or from the UK.
Aerial 1 at Goonhilly was re-equipped in 1969 and now operates with the Indian Ocean satellite to provide communications to 25 countries in the Far East, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Hong Kong, etc. Aerials 2 and 3 at Goonhilly operate with the Atlantic

Outline drawing showing the receiving stations and countries throughout the world who are using the global satellite service via the commercial Intelsat Link.
satellite, communicating with 15 countries on the other side of the Atlantic. There are now 1300 circuits available through Goonhilly, over half of them involving UK traffic. They handle nearly 9 million intercontinental calls per year!
Goonhilly is now part of a global network of 90 ground stations in 64 countries operating a total of over 120 aerials, but the number is rapidly growing. Over 100 countries use satellite services, those without aerials being connected through landlines to other countries. Low noise parametric amplifiers are employed in the receivers with the required 500 MHz bandwidth and cooling to minimise noise.

## MADLEY

A new earth station is under construction at Madley in Herefordshire. It will probably have 6 aerial dishes in due course, the first of these replacing Aerial 1 at Goonhilly about 1978 to handle all satellite communications to the Far East up to the early 1980s. Aerial 1 at Goonhilly will then be used
tor Atlantic work, but will later become a standby when two more aerials at Madley take over the Atlantic work. The Post Office intends to erect a microwave tower at Coldwell near Madey to link the aerials to the national telephone system.

## TELEVISION

The use of the Goonhilly aerials for television signals has increased from about 9 hours in 1965 to about 350 hours per year. The demand for intercontinental television (unlike telephone demand) seems to be approaching saturation. Television accounts for under $2 \%$ of use, whilst telephone circuits account for about $80 \%$.

## COMPARISON WITH CABLE

The boom in intercontinental communications could not have been met without satellites, although one may well ask whether the boom would have occurred if they had not made the facilities ayailable at a reasonable cost. Cables and satellites each have their own adyantages for particular applications and places, whilst high frequency radio links have now been greatly improved. The life of a sub-oceanic cable is considerably greater than that of a satellite. Cables have an estimated life of 25 years, satellites of only seven years, although both of these values may be exceeded. It is uneconomic to provide cable links to remote islands, so such regions are best served by satellite or radio links. On the other hand, cables are generally more vulnerable to enemy attack than satelites. Only satellite links can be used to convey all types of signal (telephony, telegraphy, television, data and facsimile) over long distances.

When a signal Lravels up to a satellite and back to earth, the journey is about 45,000 miles. This inevitably means that there is a delay of about a $1_{4}$ second or a total delay of $1_{2}$ second before one obtains a response to any signal. The delay on even the longest cable is only about $i_{1, j}$ second. In general the $l_{2}$ second delay is unimportant in telephone work, although detectable, but can be serious in some types of data transmission.

## OTHER APPLICATIONS

Hundreds of ships are lost at sea each year, often without any signal to land. Suitable maritime satellites ("Marisats") can provide reliable communications of the quality one normally meets on land. The first Marisat was launched on February 19th, 1976, for Atlantic use. Some problems have occurred with the commercial circuits, but the other $75 \%$ used by the US navy are performing satisfactorily. Another Marisat is due in May for the Pacific area.

In August 1974 a joint programme "Aerosat" was agreed in which the use of satellites for providing high quality communications with aircraft in flight will be investigated. The first satellite is planned for 1978. NASA has also placed satellites (such as Westar 1 and Westar 2) into orbit for communications across the USA. Complete newspapers have been sent in facsimile from Massachusetts to Florida using Westar 1 ; the newspapers have then been published in Florida.

The ATS-6 satellite over Lake Victoria has been used to re-broadcast domestic television to rural parts of India on 860 MHz with FM vision, 625 line signals. Although the beam is direected at India, the signals have been received in Dublin and Sheffield using dish reflectors. Such sateilites can be used for educational television in remote areas.

The satellite with the largest number of voice circuits is Satcom-1 with 24,000 circuits, owned by RCA Global Communications and intended to serve the US for telephone traffic. Countries such as Algeria, Brazil and Norway have leased the capacity of transponders on the Intelsat satellites for their own domestic use.

## ISD

The availability of global satellite multi-channel links has greatly facilitated International Subscriber Dialling (ISD) in which one can dial international numbers without having to wait for line availability and for operator connection. The ISD system first came to the UK in 1963 when London subscribers were able to dial Paris numbers. In 1970 an ISD service was opened between London and New York.

At present ISO is available from most of the more heavily populated areas to European countries, the USA, Canada, Australia, S. Africa, etc. In rural areas the register translators in the exchanges cannot store enough digits for international calls, but it is hoped that the necessary equipment will be fitted in most areas of the UK by 1980 . Intercontinental calls cannot normally be dialled from coin boxes, since the rate of charge is too great. However, there are a few international coin boxes taking only 50p pieces at airports, etc., which provide intercontinental ISD facilities.

ISD calls are charged by means of the meter attached to each telephone line which registers the charge in units of 3 p. When a call to Australia is dialled, short audio pulses, which one can hear in the telephone, occur every $1 \cdot 71$ seconds and give rise to a charge of about $£ 1 \cdot 05$ per minute. Similar pulses occur at a much lower frequency on inland calls. In calls to the US and Canada, the pulses occur every 2.4 seconds on weekdays between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. and every 3.2 seconds at other times (about 75 p and 56 p per minute respectively). These call rates are not only cheaper than operator connected charges, but one pays only for the time used without a 3 minute minimum. ISD calls of a few seconds duration can be made to other continents for a few pence.

These current charges may be compared with those in pre-satellite days. In 1927 the charge for a 3 minute call to New York was $£ 15$, whilst it decreased to $£ 9$ in 1936. Even without inflation these charges are obviously well above the current ones. One may also compare the 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. peak rate for inland calls of over 35 miles (namely $3 p$ for 10 seconds) with the intercontinental rates quoted previously. The Australian ISD rate is only about $5 \cdot 85$ times and the US rates $4 \cdot 17$ and $3 \cdot 13$ times the inland charge for a peak rate trunk call.

The amount charged for any international call is shared on an agreed basis between the two countries involved and also with any other country through which the call is switched. Accounting information for ISD calls is stored on magnetic drums, whilst the operator supplies the required information in the case of operator-connected calls. The use of satellite communications greatly simplifies the accounting, since only two countries are normally involved.

Even in the case of a complete New York to Paris colour television link by satellite, the charge is only about $£ 2,600$ per hour. Thus the Intelsat satellites do offer communications at reasonable cost over such long distances.

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JINGLES, sound effects and commercials which are required to provide continuity in a programme are normally recorded on special cartridges. A continuous loop of lubricated ${ }_{1}{ }_{4}$ in tape is contained within a small box resembling an 8 -track cartridge. There is a cue track on a portion of tape where tones are recorded, to be used later by the playback machines. These tones control automatic stopping and cueing of the jingle. Other features of the system include $7^{1}{ }_{2}$ ips playing speed and instantstart solenoid pinch-wheel control. Unfortunately the cost of this system prevents many discotheques, clubs and small broadcasting organisations from using it even though the facilities offered are most attractive.

This project describes how a cassette system, based on the cartridge system, is used to obtain the same features but the "machine" consists of an add-on unit for domestic cassette recorders, the recorder containing all the important electronics required to obtain signals from the cassette.

The add-on unit is merely a kind of VOX control i.e. a signal monitor circuit which takes a signal from the cassette to operate a relay and control the cassette deck motors by interruption, to stop playback, and continuity to the deck's remote control circuit. Most cassette decks are given remote control sookets for allowing recordings to be interrupted and crudely edited by the opening and closing of switch contacts, usually on the microphone. Normally when the remote control plug is not inserted, the motor supply is totally dependent upon the cassette deck itself but controlled by a short-circuit condition when the remote control plug is inserted. In the prototype
(using a Philips EL3302 cassette player) the remote control circuit was in one of the battery supply leads.

Readers are advised to check this point on their machines by inserting a remote control socket and putting a milliammeter in a battery lead and switching to "play". The plug, when inserted, may stop the motors but a small current still flows. This is due to the electronics drawing current. Thus the recorder must be switched off when no jingles arerequired, hence saving battery costs.

The principle of control used here is simply that when a signal from the tape is detected the control relay operates, and one of it's contacts holds the remote control loop closed. When the jingle has ended, the relay releases and disconnects the remote control circuit. In this version a second relay is used to cue the jingle, working in conjunction with the control relay. The recording of jingles will be dealt with in the final part of this article, but for explanatory purposes the jingle tape consists of (i) Leader tape (ii) Tone burst, followed by blank tape (iii) First run through of the jingle followed by blank tape etc., all 10 times over, then 30 seconds of blank tape.

After this sequence is ended the unit can be switched off and the remainder of the cassette is used for recording normally. The circuit diagram which shows the prototype circuit fulfilling these requirements is given in Fig. 1.

## $\star$ components list




Fig. 1. Full schematic diagram of the unit, including off-board components.

## Circuit diagram

With a jingle cassette fully wound on side one, the leader tape starts off the cassette and a burst of tone is replayed when actual tape section is located. Thus the operator presses the start button Sl, RLB latches in over its own contact RLBI, and RLB2 shorts the remote control circuit, and the cassette plays. When the tone burst is detected by the replay circuit within the player, it is amplified and fed to its own loudspeaker and monitor sockets. The add-on unit is connected at either of these points, so the tone burst, or any signal from the tape, is fed to the input of the circuit.

Tr1 is normally conducting, but the signal applied to its base via Cl switches the transistor off during negative half cycles. When this occurs Tr 1 collector voltage rises and if it rises, above the threshold of D1 by a sufficient amount (4V) Tr2 turns on. The voltage on C 2 falls since Tr 2 collector voltage falls. Tr 3 and $\operatorname{Tr} 4$ have a high input impedance and deteot any change in the voltage across C2. Hence when a signal is applied to the circuit C2 voltage falls and Tr 3 and $\operatorname{Tr} 4$ switch off. This voltage rise at $\operatorname{Tr} 4$ collector drives $\operatorname{Tr} 5$ and RLA which operates on the applied signal. With RLA operated by the tone burst RLB is released, since RLA2 breaks its hold circuit. Contact RLA1 maintains a loop to the cassette deck to let the motors run during a jingle or tone burst.

When the tone burst has stopped RLA is released, thus stopping the motors. The value of C2 and R4 ensure that the voltage across C 2 rises slowly and the circuit takes a few seconds before RLB actually releases. This feature allows jingles to be played fully before disconnecting the remote control circuit which would otherwise "wow" the last few bars or phrases and sound totally amateurish. When the jingle or effect is required S1 is pressed and the jingle plays within about a ${ }^{1} 4$ second. Note that RLA operates briefly, which serves to hold the remote control circuit until RLA operates with S1 released.

At the end of 10 jingles there is a silent period. Note that prior to insertion of the cassette, if there are three marks on tape then the cassette must be re-wound before jingles are used. Failure to observe
this rule will result in the operator expecting a jingle, pressing the start button and get a peaceful silence! RLA2 is arranged to light an indicator, LED2, on the control panel when the jingle is being replayed and so tells the operator that the cassette deck is working. LED1 indicates that the unit is idle or in a standby condition thus warning the operator that the supply is switched on.

Switch S3 is used to overide the control circuit by shorting the remote control circuit of the cassette deck. This allows the cassette deck to work normally, independently of the jingle circuit. This facility is useful when re-winding a jingle cassette without removing the remote control plug.

Phote of the authors uniz buill to the drawing information given, Showng the lettering on the control panel and the PCB m posifion at the front end of the pllith.



## Construction

The PCB is shown full size in Fig. 2 with the component layout illustrated in Fig. 3. In order to help the operation the jingle machine control panel must be near to the controls of the cassette recorder.

The plinth Fig. 4 was made from 6 mm plywood and $13 \mathrm{~mm} \times 13 \mathrm{~mm}$ ( $1_{2} \times{ }^{1}$ in ) support members which serve as strengthening sections for the sides, front and rear, where they join the base. They also serve as supports for the circuit boards.

Battery leads are twisted together and soldered to a PP9 battery connector. The plugs for the remote control and monitor outputs are terminated using screened wire for the monitor leads and unscreened twin flex for the remote control connection. The plug may be a DIN $240^{\circ}$ one which supplies both the remote control and monitor circuits. If the pin numbers correspond to those for the Philips machine, shown in Fig. 1, then wire the plug accordingly. If this is not the case, or doubt exists, it


is essential to check in the instruction booklet of the recorder used for the relevant pin connections.

## Control panel

The control panel consists of a piece of 18SWG aluminium which is drilled and bent to size as shown in Fig. 5. The lettering should be done in accordance with the photograph.
The components can then be mounted on the panel. LED's may present a problem but the TIL209 type LED's usually have a holder with them when they are purchased. The wiring of the panel is shown in Fig. 6.

Fig. 6. Wiring interconnections for the control panel components.





Fig. 5 Constructonat ofals for the comfor panel.

## Testing

When all wiring has been thoroughly checked, place the cover on the plinth. Insert the plugs in the cassette recorder as appropriate and switch on the supply to the unit. The red LED (LED1) should glow. Insert a cassette and switch the jingle player to automatic. Then switch the cassette recorder to play, when nothing should happen. On pressing the start button, the cassette should play and the green LED should glow. Now switch the cassette off at the recorder, either by stop or pause controls. Within a short time the LED 1 should glow and LED 2 should go out. The pause control can be released or switched to play and the cassette will not play. Failure of these tests can be due to wrong wiring, particularly check relay contacts, plugs, etc., or faulty components. Small screws are used on the plinth to secure sides to the cover and then to secure control panel to plinth after correct operation has been confirmed.

## Recording and operating

With the remote control and monitor plugs inserted into the sockets of the cassette recorder, insert a cassette into the recorder. Switch S3 to "Normal" and then rewind the cassette until the start of side one is reached. A source of tone is now required to


# PRODUCTION LINES colinniches 

## NEW FROM PHILIPS



Philips' new clock radio.
New from Philips is the RS250 digital clock radio which covers VHF/FM and medium wavebands. It has builtin aerials and 'soft' lighting is provided for the clock figures. The alarm switch can be set for: wake-by-radio or wake-by-buzzer. Dimensions are $29 \mathrm{cms} \times 8 \mathrm{cms} \times 16.5 \mathrm{cms}\left(11 \frac{1}{2} \times 3 \frac{1}{4} \times\right.$ $6 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$ ). Price is $£ 36 \cdot 95$.-Philips Electrical Limited (Dept. P.W.), Century House, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8AS.

## HEAD MAINTENANCE KIT



Tape Head Maintenance kit Model 99.
"Don't play Dirty" say Bib in announcing therr new Tape Head Maintenance kit, model 99. It contains anti-static cleaning liquid, cleaning brush and cloth, inspection mirror and cleaning pads for use with the specially designed cleaning tool. This tool has an interchangeable head which permits easy access to tape heads. All these items are contained in a hinged plastic box. Price of the complete kit is $£ 1 \cdot 98$ including VAT.-Bib HiFi Accessories Ltd. (Dept. P.W.) P.O. Box 78, Hemel Hempstead, Herts., HP2 4RH.

## STORAGE UNITS

Heathkit have gone into the furniture business! They've announced a range of four storage units-each finished in teak veneer and supplied in kit form. Every cabinet can be assembled in a few minutes using only a screwdriver and all are mounted on a set of "ball" type castors.

Shown in our picture is the 'Shaftesbury Concord' model AE1206 measuring 813 mm wide $\times 787 \mathrm{~mm}$ high and 394 mm deep ( $32 \mathrm{in} \times 31 \mathrm{in} \times 15 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$ ). Price is $£ 39 \cdot 50$. A similar model but with two sliding doors below, is the 'Shaftesbury Clare' kit, model AE1203, priced at $£ 51 \cdot 80$. Two low-line cabinets (basically as the one illustrated minus the two top shelves) are the 'Shaftesbury Cadby' AE1204 at £36.50 (with doors) and the 'Shaftesbury Cadet AE1205 at $£ 34 \cdot 80$. Sizes of these two are $813 \mathrm{~mm} \times 464 \mathrm{~mm} \times$

## GOULD ADVANCE BETA

The new Gould Advance Beta is a portable, battery-operated $3 \frac{1}{2}$-digit $29-r a n g e$ multimeter using a large, high-contrast liquid-crystal display, based on a single complementary metal oxide semiconductor (C-MOS) IC chip from Motorola for all analogue and digital functions.

The 7 -segment, 10 mm -high display used on the Beta digital multimeter uses field-effect reflective liquidcrystal digits so the instrument can be used equally well indoors or for field measurements. Only four trimmers are incorporated, three for recalibration of the DC and resistance ranges and one for the $A C$ ranges.

The C-MOS circuitry and the liquid crystal display enable a set of four SP11 'C' cells to provide over 300 h . use, representing up to 10 weeks' use under normal conditions.

As evidence of the high reliability resulting from the fewer components and low current consumption, Gould Advance is offering a 2-year guarantee on Beta.

This unit has five DC voltage ranges $(200 \mathrm{mV}-1 \mathrm{kV})$, five AC voltage ranges ( $200 \mathrm{mV}-750 \mathrm{~V}$ ), six $D C$ and six $A C$ current ranges $(200 \mu \mathrm{~A}-2 \mathrm{~A}$, with a 10 A range via a


Heathkit storage unit.
394 mm ( 32 in wide $\times 18 \frac{1}{4}$ in high $\times 15 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$ deep).-Heath (Gloucester) Ltd. (Dept. P.W.), Gloucester, GL2 6EE.

## NEW VEROBOX

Vero Electronics Limited have announced an addition to their range of plastic Veroboxes.

The sloping front design of the box incorporates an anodised aluminium panel to enable keyboards, switches, meters and other panel mounting components to be readily housed. Dimensions are $4.5^{\prime \prime}$ deep $\times 6.5^{\prime \prime} \times 3^{\prime \prime}$. Vero Electronics Limited (Dept. P.W.), Industrial Estate, Chandler's Ford, East/eigh, Hampshire.

separate unprotected input), and six resistance ranges ( $200 \Omega-20 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ ), fully protected to 250 V r.m.s. Basic accuracy of the Beta is $\pm 0.2 \%$.

Optional extras include a temperature probe for direct-reading temperature measurements between $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and $+120^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ with an accuracy of $\pm 1^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, an RF probe ( $40 \mathrm{mV}-30 \mathrm{~V}$, with a 3 dB bandwidth of $20 \mathrm{kHz}-$ 500 MHz in a $50 \Omega$ coaxial system), a high-voltage probe ( 1 kV to 40 kV ), a battery eliminator and a carrying case.
Beta is supplied in a rugged metal case measuring 246 mm wide $\times 180 \mathrm{~mm}$ deep $\times 72 \mathrm{~mm}$ high. Weight is 1.4 kg . Price is $£ 99$ plus VAT.-Gould Advance Ltd., (Dept. P.W.) Roebuck Road, Hainault, Essex.

## EAGLE STEREO RECEIVER

Eagle international have added a new AM/FM tuner-amplifier/stereo receiver-the R2020 to their 2000 series. Driving 20W RMS per channel; it has provision for connection of two turntables, outputs for two pairs of speakers and tape facilities allowing two tape decks to be used for alternative recording/playback.
Functions are selected via an arrangement of push buttons on the front panel. Audio section has a quoted $\mathrm{S} / \mathrm{N}$ ratio of 64 dB . Total harmonic distortion for rated output is less than $0.2 \%$ and frequency response is quoted as $15 \mathrm{~Hz}-36 \mathrm{kHz}$ $\pm 2 \mathrm{~dB}$. The housing is of teak veneer with recessed louvres and brushed metal fascia. Price is $£ 126$-40. Eagle International (Dept. P.W.), Precision Centre, Hesther Park Drive, Wembley, HAO $15 U$.

## NORMENDE'S 'GLOBEMASTER'



The new Normende 'Globemaster' 6-band portable priced at £78.60.

Normende have announced the return of the Globemaster battery/mains portable radio. It was dropped some time ago after the company's introduction of the larger 'Galaxy' range.

The Globemaster covers MW, LW, VHF and three SW bands-49m, 19m and $16-41 \mathrm{~m}$ continuous. Tuning is by thumbwheel and a tuning meter which doubles as a battery condition meter. On short-wave bandspread, a second thumb-wheel enables fine tuning. On FM working there is a switchable AFC. Output on batteries is 2 W and on mains 4 W .

The recommended retail price of the Globemaster, which is finished in black with brushed aluminium, is £78.60. Distributors in G.B. are: Vessco Vision \& Radio Ltd. (Dept. P.W.), 4 Blackwater Way, Ash Road, Aldershot, Hants., GU12 4DL.


## WIDEBAND AMPLIFIER

A VHF/UHF wideband distribution amplifier for FM and TV has been introduced by Labgear. Type CM6049 can be employed as a 6-band amplifier and its full output is capable of feeding external splitters to tap-off units for even more outputs. Bandwidth is $40-860 \mathrm{MHz}$ and full output provides a gain of 4.0 dB . Isolation between outputs is better than 36 dB . Input source and output load impedance are 75 ohms and noise figure typically 7dB. Provision is made for powering Labgear masthead preamplifiers at 16 V 3 mA or 24 V 30 mA .

Further information and prices may be obtained from Labgear Limited (Dept. P.W.), Abbey Walk, Cambridge, CB1 2RQ.

## NEW PHILIPS I.C.E.

Latest in-car unit from Philips is the AC 860 radio/cassette player. It replaces the models RN642/RN712 and Philips have developed a new tape transport mechanism for the machine which cuts the number of moving parts from 600 to about 140. The AC 860 also has a new improved Super Turnclock system which enables a single button to select and lock on to 6 pre-tuned stations. Other features include: I.A.C. (Interference Absorbtion Circuit) which helps to cut all passing car interference on FM and reduces own-car suppression to a minimum. Three band radio (LW/MW/FM stereo). FM stereo indicator. Stereo cassette play facility. 2 channel ( $2 \times 5 \mathrm{~W}$ ) output. Treble and bass controls. Fast wind and rewind controls. Auto stop at end of tape and auto-switching to radio at end of cassette playback. Price is $£ 198.96$ including VAT. Philips Electrical Limited, (Dept. PW) Century House, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8AS.

The Eagle stereo receiver model R2020. Price is £126-40.

## AVOMETER 73



Avo's latest meter-me Avometer Model 73.
Avo recently announced their Avometer Model 73. It combines widerange coverage with small size and an overload protection : system. Ranges include 150 mV to 750 V d.c., 7.5 V to 750 V a.c. $75 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ to 3 A d.c., 3 mA to 3 A a.c. and $2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ to $20 \mathrm{M} \Omega$. Sensitivites are quoted as $20 \mathrm{k} \Omega /$ volt d.c. and $2 k \Omega /$ volt a.c. Frequency bandwidth is over 50 kHz on many ranges.

The Model 73 comes complete with leads, prods, clips and full operating instructions. A range of accessories, which includes a carrying case, plugin shunts and a 30 kV d.c. probe is available.

Price of this new meter is $£ 33$ plus VAT.-Avo Limited (Dept. P.W.), Archcliffe Road, Dover, Kent, CT17 9EN.



## 1923 2nectider

SEVERAL readers have approached me asking if it would be possible to publish designs to enable them to build up vintage receivers using vintage components. Well, from time-to-time, I hope to publish circuits with component values so that you can do just this. Last month we had the "Everyman Four"-this month we have a compact HF amplifier receiver. In this circuit the three electrode valve (tack your pick!) is used to amplify the HF oscillations before they are detected. The anode circuit contains the coil L2, the circuit being completed, partly by the self-capacity of the coil and partly by the capacity between filament and anode of the valve. One could use either slider-type inductances or variometers.

Ll will vary obviously according to the wavelengths to be received. For MW it could be a 4in diameter tube 5 in long wound for $4^{1}$ in with No. 24 enamelled wire. L2 could be 4 in diameter, 8 in long wound for a distance of 7 in with No. 24 enamelled copper wire.

In 1923, if. one wanted to receive Paris on 2,600 metres, L1 was wound on a 4 in diameter former liin long. Windings were $101_{2}$ in with No. 24 enamelled cop-
per wire. L2 was of similar size but some additional inductance had to be connected in series with it. It was suggested therefore that a non-variable coil of similar specification was connected in series with this variable inductance.

To operate the receiver both L1 and L2 should be adjusted until the loudest signals are obtained. Careful adjustment of R1 and the crystal detector Dl will obviously improve signals.
Components required are: L1 (slider-type inductance) L2 (larger slider-type inductance) R1 (filament rheostat of 7-102.) V 1 (three-electrode valve) $\mathrm{B1}$ ( 6 V accumulator) B2 ( 40 to 80 V HT battery) D1 (crystal detector) Phones (high-resistance type).

## 㓞re=Radar!

IN the year 1897 noises were being made about a device for locating fog-signals at sea and one of our Going Back readers has sent me some information on a device available at that timeperhaps it could even be called the 'forerunner of radar'!
In those days, even as it is now, it was difficult, when at sea, to determine the direction from which sounds came, so if another ship's fog horn was sounding, it could almost be coming from any


One valve/crystal receiver.

of the 360 points of the compass. American scientists dreamed up a device which would seem to have solved the problem. (see picture).
The device comprised a vane, like a radar antenna, mounted on a vertical pole so that it could have a clean sweep of the horizon. On each side of this vane was a sound pick-up tube which had pipes connecting it to the ears of the operator who would be situated in a cabin below the apparatus. The convex surfaces of the vane acted as reflectors to their own receiver tubes. To locate the direction of a sound in fog, the vane was rotated by means of a hand wheel until sound was heard in one ear only. It was then turned until sound was heard in the other ear. The two positions of the vane were indicated on a dial just above the handwheel and the direction from which the sounds came was exactly mid-way between them.

Believe it or not, many trials with this unit in thick fog were very successful and the apparatus was installed on the U.S.S. Indiana and several vessels of the mercantile marine.

## Fintage Co EQUIPMENT WANTED

. . . An Ormond Disc Drive with escutcheon to complete a Burgone Olympic 3 receiver (1932-1933).S. Woods, 9 Portalield, Stalham, Norwich, Norfolk. REGC

## WNETT MONTHT'S

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All your "Upper Bracket" cars hail in at the factory their electronics built in that owners of but that doesn expensive model

## Greelnide

THIS instrument was designed to measure capacitance from 1 pf to $30 \mu \mathrm{~F}$, providing a direct read-out of the measured value without the manipulation of balance controls. For this reason, it is more convenient in use than a Capacitance Bridge.

It also provides a bias of 3 V d.c. across the capacitor under test. Although this is low enough to be suitable for any type of capacitor, including 3 V working disc ceramics, it is larger than the test waveform and no voltage reversals are experienced by the capacitor under test.

## DESIGN PRINCIPLES -

Fig. 1 is a block diagram of the instrument. The mode of operation is by measuring the amplitude of a test wave-form after it has been attenuated by a passive lag CR network, of which the capacitor is the CAPACITOR UNDER TEST (C.U.T.).


W296
Fig. 1. Block diagram showing the three main divisions of the unit.
The relation between the alternating voltage input to the measuring section and the value of the capacitance under test at a constant test frequency is shown in Fig. 2. It does, of course, have the same shape as the curve of output voltage versus frequency for a mixed capacitor.
Fig. 2. Curve of output voltage against capacitance for a fixed value of resistance and a fixed frequency.


If the circuit (which covers 10 to 1 in capacitance value on any one range) worked on the part of the curve of output voltage versus capacitance value indicated in Fig. 2, the meter deflection would be inversely proportional to capacitance. This has two advantages. Firstly, the resolution for small values of capacitance is much improved. Secondly, the meter will always be deflected whilst the instrument is switched on but not in use, a useful indication that it needs switching off!

However, with this arrangement the resolution for larger values of capacitance would suffer unduly and two steps are taken to prevent this.


Practical Wireless, September 1976


. . . my grandfather bought his first bits and pieces from Home Radio of Mitcham 30 years ago-and he still relies on them! So does my father. It's not surprising that l've been bitten by the same bug.
When Dad saw how keen I was on electronic gadgets he bought me a Home Radio Components catalogue. Between you and me I think he was getting fed up with me keep borrowing his! I must say it really is a smashing book. I spend hours poring over it deciding what I shall save up for next. Although I can't afford to spend much yet Home Radio treat me like a millionaire. I've been told that it's a small family business that hasn't grown too big to care for the amateur constructor.

Another thing I like about Home Radio is that if I have any queries or problems I can go right to the man at the top. On several occasions l've found him jolly helpful.
Let me tell you a bit more about this catalogue. It lists about 5,000 items and has about 2,000 pictures (so they tell meI haven't actually counted them) and it's laid out so clearly that even I can find my way around it easily. It also tells you all about their Deposit Credit Scheme which I will be able to join as soon as I'm eighteen. I find it quite exciting to think that I shall then be able to pick up the phone on a Sunday night and read over my order to their answerphone machine, and by Monday my gear will be on its way to me. I can hardly wait!

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-regulated power supply components
-board-mounted DIN sockets and push-button switches

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Firstly, two test frequencies are provided, one being 3 times lower than the other. Thus, for example, on the 1 to $10 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ range, for values greater than $3 \mu \mathrm{~F}$, the lower frequency can be used, giving a full scale reading of $3 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ on a second scale. This scale is calibrated over a 10 to 1 range, permitting capacitors up to $30 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ to be measured.


Fig. 3. Full schematic diagram of the meter including on-board and chassis mounted components.


Secondly, by moving the range of the curve in Fig. 2 over which the instrument operates to the left, the scale for lower values of capacitance can be slightly compressed, as the operating range now partly covers the shoulder of the curve. This results in an improvement of resolution for higher values of capacitance and in fact the scale shape (apart from reading right to left) closely approximates the ideal logarithmic shape. This law, like the C and D scales of a slide rule, provides a constant percentage reading accuracy or resolution.
Of course, as the test wave form is actually a square wave, the foregoing comments apply primarily to its fundamental component, but the harmonics do not affect the argument and a stable amplitude square wave is more easily generated than a stable amplitude sine wave.

## DETAILS OF THE CIRCUIT

Fig. 3 shows the full circuit diagram of the instrument. The operation is as follows. Trl and $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ form an emitter coupled multivibrator. These conduct alternately and the combined emitter currents flow through Tr1 and R4 or through Tr2 and R7. The voltage produced across R4, fed back to C2 via TR2, determines the voltage through which C2 has to charge and discharge and hence the frequency. However, the effective value of resistance in the collector circuit of Trl consists of R3 in parallel with R4 and R2 plus VR1 when selected, setting the two operating frequencies. The voltage across R7 turns on $\operatorname{Tr} 3$ on alternate half cycles, thus driving the base of $\operatorname{Tr} 4$ with a square wave switching between 0 and $6 \cdot 2 \mathrm{~V}$. R9 thus defines a square wave current delivered by $\operatorname{Tr} 4$ to the parallel combination of R10, R11 and R12. This is equivalent to an ideal voltage source behind $220 \Omega$ and is fed to the capacitor under test. On other ranges, resistors R18 or R19 etc. are added to increase the source resistance to $2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$, $22 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$ etc. up to a maximum of $22 \mathrm{M} \Omega$.
The C.U.T. attenuates the applied test wave form by some amount, depending on its capacitance and the source resistance which has been selected at S 2 . With the latter in position 6 and S1A in position 3, $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ causes just that attenuation which results in the meter reading full scale. Larger capacitances will reduce the reading and since the meter is scaled in capacitance, their value can be read directly from the 1 to 10 scale or from the 3 to 30 scale with Sl at position 4. Note that with the test terminals open circuit, the meter will read off scale to the right. The exception to this is the 10 to 100 pF scale.
There is, of course, some residual capacitance associated with S 2 B , the test terminals and Tr 5 input. By careful layout and with short wiring this can be kept to under 10 pF . Just sufficient extra capacitance is then added to the positive test terminal (the negative one is connected directly to the front panel to give a reading of 10 pF i.e. full scale, with nothing connected to the test terminals. The instrument thus reads 10 pF high on all scales, so that a reading of 100 pF is obtained with a C.U.T. of 90 pF , whilst a reading of 11 pF corresponds to a C.U.T. of 1 pF . This arrangement extends the range of the instrument by a factor of ten. For capacitances of 1000 pF or greater, there is no point in subtracting 10 pF from the reading, as the instrument does not pretend to an accuracy greater than one or two per cent.

## components list




## Miscellaneous

PCB, Readers Service. Meter; 100 f A fsd, 51,3 pole 4 way. S2, 2 pole 6 way 2 wafers

The meter amplifier is driven by the low input capacitance buffer stage $\operatorname{Tr} 5$ and Tr6. As FET Tr5 is biased via Rll and the resitance network selected by S 2 , it imposes no shunt input resistance across the C.U.T. and its input capacitance is kept low by the source-follower connection with the drain bootstrapped by Tr6. The gate of $\operatorname{Tr} 5$ is biased at about $+3 \cdot 5 \mathrm{~V}$ and this bias is convenient when measuring electrolytic capacitors, which should be connected in the polarity indicated in Fig. 3. Large electrolytics and 3 V working high K ceramic capacitances will exhibit appreciable leakage current. This will not upset the biasing of Tr5, since when these capacitors are being measured, the source resistance of the bias circuit is low with $S 2$ in position 4,5 or 6.

The signal from Tr5 is applied to the meter circuit, which consists of a common emitter amplifier $\operatorname{Tr} 7$ with AC shunt feedback via the meter. High loop gain is ensured by Tr8, which effectively multiplies the value of Tr7's collector load R30 by bootstrapping. The collector current of $\operatorname{Tr} 8$ is returned to the emitter of Tr 7 to stabilise the DC conditions of the two transistors. C6 prevents this degeneration
occurring at AC , thus maintaining high loop gain in the main NFB loop via the meter. The meter is also used to indicate the state of the batteries in position 2 of $S 1$.
The whole instrument runs from stabilised supplies of $6 \cdot 2 \mathrm{~V}$ and 12 V . Tr9 is an error amplifier which compares the 12 V stabilised rail with the $6 \cdot 2 \mathrm{~V}$ reference voltage across D5. VT9 turns on just suffciently to cause Tr10 to absorb some of the base current available to the pass transistor Trll via R35. The remaining base current is just sufficient to enable $\operatorname{Tr} 11$ to maintain its collector at 12 V .
This circuit has several advantages over more conventional stabiliser circuits. It operates down to a battery voltage of 12.5 V or less, enabling maximum life to be obtained from the batteries. It is positively self-starting, yet the reference D5 is fed from the stabilised output, ensuring good stabilisation and the very high loop gain ensures excellent regulation. Since the drain on the $+6 \cdot 2 \mathrm{~V}$ supply is small and constant, it can be taken from across the reference zener D5. Note that C8, C9 and C10 are all essential to ensure the stability of the stabiliser under all conditions.

## CONSTRUCTION

$\qquad$
Any suitable metal case may be used, but it will be found convenient to mount the test terminals near the bottom of the front panel with the switches S1 and S2 above them and the meter above that. Wiring from the wiper of S2B to the positive test terminal and to R23 and Tr5 must be short and direct, as in the photograph.

S2 should be a two wafer switch and R12 to R22 can be mounted on it as the wafers are spaced apart. R22 is built up of three separate resistors in order to minimise the stray capacitance which shunts it. This is important to preserve reasonable accuracy on the 10 to 100 pF range. It is for this reason that R12 to R17 are not replaced by a single resistor from S2A wiper to earth. As shown, they prevent any capacitive feed through of test waveform from S2A to contacts 2 to 6 of S2A and thence across S2B to the C.U.T. Note also the screen on the PCB.

The batteries should be mounted in the base of the case, preferably in a reasonably central position, so that the instrument is stable when standing and feels well balanced when carried. A mains power supply may be incorporated in place of the batteries, but in this case, care must be taken that it is totally screened from the circuitry of Fig. 3, otherwise hum pick-up will be troublesome on the lower capacitance ranges.
Provided the layout of Figs. 4 and 5 is adopted, no difficulties should be experienced, as only comparatively low frequencies are involved. The wave form generator runs at 850 Hz approx. on the $\times 1$ range. The circuitry is constructed on a $5 \cdot 4 \mathrm{in} \times 4 \mathrm{in}$ printed circuit board. Fig. 4 shows the printed circuit layout, viewed from the copper side. It can be transferred to the board blank by placing it over the board with a piece of carbon paper in between and then tracing the PC tracks firmly with an HB pencil. Provided the copper has been well cleaned beforehand, the carbon paper will mark the copper clearly enough to be easily visible in an oblique light. For cleaning the



Fig. 4. Etched wiring pattern, drawn full scale to altow easy Iransference to clad board for the do-it-jourselfer
copper, a piece of well used "Scotchbrite" green kitchen scouring cloth, used wet, is ideal. The tracks should next be marked in with a suitable ferric chloride resist (the author used brushing cellulose as sold for touching up car paintwork). After etching, which takes about half an hour, wash the board well. If cellulose paint has been used, it can be removed with Polystrippa paint stripper. Wash the board well again and dry.

Fig. 5 shows the component layout and it is best to assemble all the components and pins to the board straightaway. The track side of the board can then be lightly varnished to prevent the copper tarnishing. The completed PC panel was mounted with spacers on two brackets secured to the base of the case. These brackets also served to retain the batteries. R36 is mounted on S1 and R24 between SI and the positive meter terminal.

## CALIBRATION

The accuracy of the capacitance meter in use depends entirely on the care with which the calibration is carried out. Undoubtedly the best way is with the aid of a Standard Decade Capacitor Box. Your local Technical College may well permit you to use one of theirs, on their premises during normal hours of course. Failing this, a good sort through the junk box may unearth some 1 per cent capacitors, enabling you to fix the main scale points. Series and parallel combinations of these will provide other values, permitting the 1 to 10 scale to be calibrated in its entirety.

However, having completed the construction of the instrument, the first job is to check that it is all basically operational, so set the four preset pots to mid position and connect it to an 18 V supply. Check that there is 6.2 V across D5 and adjust VR3 so that the stabilised voltage across C9 is 12 V . Check that this is maintained from 18 V supply down to at least $12 \cdot 5 \mathrm{~V}$. Check that the square wave at $\operatorname{Tr} 3$ collector is approximately 6 V peak to peak. The voltage at Tr8 emitter should read $6 \cdot 3 \mathrm{~V}$, adjust VR4 to achieve this. Check that with S2A in position 6 and no capacitor connected to the test terminals, the meter reads off scale. R10 to R22 should, ideally, all be 1 per cent, but good accuracy will be obtained if Electrosil TR5 2 per cent resistors are used, as around 90 per cent of these are in fact within 1 per cent. The resistors for the $10-100 \mathrm{pF}$ range, R 22 , should be checked on a resistance bridge. All other resistors should be 5 per cent carbon film type.

Calibrating the meter can lead to disaster, so the following procedure, which minimises the risk of foreign particles getting into the movement, is recommended. Connect $0.03 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ to the test terminals, set S1 and S2 to position 4. Adjust VR2 for full scale reading on the meter. Reduce the capacitance at the test terminals to $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ and set S 1 to position 3. Set VR1 for full scale reading on the meter. Next increase the capacitance across the test terminals in increments of $0.001 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ to $0.02 \mu \mathrm{~F}$, then $0.002 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ increments to $0.04 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 0 \cdot 005 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ up to $0.06 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ and $0 \cdot 01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ up to $0 \cdot 1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$. At each step, note the meter reading against its original scale. Now remove the



meter from the instrument and in a clean dust-free environment remove the scale plate from the meter, immediately replacing the meter front. With a sharp edge, remove the numbers from the meter scale, together with any other unwanted lettering, but leave the original scale. Spray the scale with one thin coat of matt white primer. Allow to dry and check that the original scale markings can still be seen. Apply further coats until the markings are just discernible under a strong light. Now calibrate the scale from 1 to 10 using the list of readings already taken. Add a second scale under the first, marked 3 to 30 . Add a battery check indications at $2 / 3$ FSD and replace the scale in the meter.

This method of calibrating the meter not only minimises the risk of damaging it, but also avoids the draughts difficulty. When calibrating a meter directly, particularly the larger ones, an almost imperceptible draught in the room can offset the pointer enough to cause serious errors.

Alternatively, the ready to use meter scale in the heading can be fitted over the existing meter scale. This scale is specifically designed to fit the $4^{1} \sin \times$ $3^{1}{ }_{4}$ in $100 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ meter obtainable from Messrs. Dzubias, of Bolton (see advertisement in this magazine). To fit the scale first remove the meter front by easing it off over the small retaining pips. Next, carefully
remove the meter scale and replace the meter front temporarily. Stick the special scale in place using the minimum amount of adhesive thinly spread over the whole area of the original scale, to prevent wrinkling. Water based adhesives are best avoided, as they will soak through and make the printing on the back show. For the same reason, the adhesive should be allowed to become tacky before placing the new scale in position. When complete, replace the scale in the meter. The whole operation should be carried out on a clean sheet of paper, well away from the workbench or anywhere else where metal filings or dust may be lurking.

To set up the instrument when using the ready printed scale, proceed as follows. Zero the meter at the centre of the five dots. Set S1 to $\times 1$ and select the $10-100 \mathrm{nF}$ range. Connect a 1 per cent 10 nF $(0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F})$ capacitor to the test terminals and adjust VR2 for full scale reading on the meter. Now set the range switch to $1-10 \mathrm{nF}$ and the meter should read 10 on the upper scale. If it reads high switch off and zero the meter to one of the left hand dots. Then switch on and repeat this paragraph.

Conversely, if the meter reads lower than 10 , switch off and zero the meter to one of the righthand dots. In this way, it should be possible to match the scale exactly, but if the reading at 10 is
still low, wire a $3 \cdot 3 \mathrm{nF}$ capacitor in parallel with C 2 . If still high, C2 must be reduced by 5 per cent in-stead-say $0 \cdot 056 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ plus $6 \cdot 8 \mathrm{nF}$. It is unlikely that further adjustments will be required but if they are, repeat the procedure of the last two paragraphs.

Replace the meter in the instrument. With nothing connected to the test terminals, switch S2 to position $1(10-100 \mathrm{pF})$. The meter should read slightly over full scale. Solder a piece of stiff wire or brass sheet to the positive terminal and bend it toward the front panel, to achieve a full scale reading. After adjusting it, move the hands well out of the way, as grasping even the insulated part of the terminal is equivalent to connecting a capacitor of three or four pF. Finally, check that at position 2 of S1, the meter reads at the check batteries limit with a supply of $12 \cdot 5 \mathrm{~V}$. If not, adjust R37.

 \$10.


## USING THE FINISHED METER

$\qquad$
This is simplicity itself! Connect the capacitor to be measured to the terminals, observing polarity if it is an electrolytic and set S1 to $\times 1$. If the meter reads over full scale turn S2 anti-clockwise; if off scale to the left, turn S2 clockwise. The exact value of the capacitor can now be read from the scale, e.g. if the meter reads 2.2 with $S 2$ in position 4 , the C.U.T. is 22 nF or $0 \cdot 022 \mu \mathrm{~F}$. If the meter reads between 3 and 10, better resolution is provided by setting Sl to position 4 and reading on the $3-30$ scale.

## PwTECHNICROSS UZZIE No. 15



## ACROSS

3 Feelers about reception? (8)
7 Song aerials Les removed? (4)
8 Bell-ringer with the electrical password? (9)
9 Eric broadcast as a cake-decorator? (4)
11 Guilty or not of pale modulation? (4)
13 Cut-out made by a big combine? (5)
14 Temper extra German insulation? (4)
16 Batteries replaced these in some relay systems? (5)

18 Save oscillation for a big pot? (4)
20 Zero volume in the musical section? (5)
21 Call sign of anyone? (4)
25 Quarrel with its backing being very loud? (4)
26 Sort of accent actors like to transmit? (9)
27 Its knobs alone won a contest! (4)
28 Wyatt to sharpen audio equipment? (8)
DOWN
1 Unseen greeting of various lengths . . . $(5,4)$
2 ... in the age of steam! (8)
Power unit that's the origin of cat's whiskers? (4)
Type of water? Try a transformer of it, lad! (5) Drink, point north, and cater for vibration! (6) No valve starters returned to Bristol area? (4) And the ramainder have shorted! (3)
Make a call after 22 Down? (5)
Nothing wrong with this component? (9)
Sales cut a twist over electric pieces?' (8) Original home of ham? (3) Get the right pitch for tent reception? (6) Very small before 11 Down? (5) German girl in their magnetic fleld? (4)
4 His leads are about solid in water! (4)

FOR AMUSEMENT ONLY ANSWERS NEXT MONTH,


<br>P006er mpat<br>$\mathrm{A} \quad-220 / 240 \mathrm{~V} 50 \mathrm{~Hz}$<br>Amio ougput At least 0.5 V RMS<br>Thac Spited. $84.8 \mathrm{~cm} / \mathrm{s}$ (1tin)<br>Fifthuend R R sponse 50 Hz to 12 kHz (3dB)<br>Wecording bias " 57 kHz<br>Whar $\therefore D C$ with electronic speed control<br>Auto cat-oft $\because \because$ Operative on all forward or reverse functions and in event of tape faut<br>Tape Counter<br>Dimensions<br>Push to re-sef 3 digit Deck mechanism $8 \times 5 \times 3 \frac{1}{2}$ in.

CORRESPONDENCE received by PW following the publication of the article on the 'Ascot' stereo cassette recorder/player in December 1975 indicated that a large number of readers would have made the project if they had been able to buy a kit of parts. In many cases the high cost of buying by post from several suppliers was sufficient to act as a deterrent. If any of those readers are still interested in such a project then the RT-VC Stereo Cassette Tape Deck Kit is going to fill the bill.

More than that, in fact, because 'kit' is not really a true description of what actually arrives in the package. The cassette deck mechanism is complete with a PCB which carries all the circuitry for the play/record preamplifiers for both channels plus the bias oscillator and other wiring. There is a separate PCB wired for the power supply and auto shut-off circuits, and a separate mains transformer. The remaining components supplied consist of two potentiometers, two level (VU) meters, two microphone sockets, a DIN socket for input/output connections, a mains on/off switch and a stereo headphone socket. This socket has a leaf switch attached which can be ignored, or removed.

It was not possible to check all the claimed characteristics of the kit but the more important ones were investigated and found to be satisfactory including frequency response, output level, and general mechanical performance. The main purpose of this review was to see if the kit supplied could be turned into a high quality stereo cassette player/ recorder.

## INSTRUCTIONS

RT-VC rightly recommended that the constructor should be familiar with this type of equipment and able to solder properly. They point out that alleged faults are frequently due to bad soldering or wrong wiring. The instruction sheet supplied with the kit is to the usual high standard of RT-VC so that a constructor with any experience at all ought not to run into any trouble. I would have liked two copies of the instructions, to avoid having to continually turn the sheet over when the instructions referred to figures on the other side! I photocopied mine very early on in the proceedings!

The only error of any consequence in the instructions concerned the diagram showing the operating keys. This was immediately obvious when it came to operating the keys. They are, in fact, in the following order:-Record, Fast re-wind, Fast wind, Play, Stop-eject and Pause. A' note is being added to the instruction sheets.
Apart from the kit the only other items needed are a mains lead, mains fuse (optional) and a cabinet or mounting board. RT-VC cannot supply anything other than the kit. It should be stressed that the constructor is going to spend more time producing a suitable cabinet to house the completed kit than he is in the wiring! From experience, the following points should be noted, complementing the instructions.

## CONSTRUCTION

A wooden baseboard $12 \frac{1}{2} \times 10 \mathrm{in}$. was used on which the deck mechanism, transformer and auto shut-off board were mounted. The pots, sockets, mains switch and meters were all mounted symmetrically on an aluminium panel $6 \times 4 \mathrm{in}$. fixed to the right-hand side of the deck. See the photograph. Wooden blocks 3 in . high and 3in. long lifted the deck to provide adequate clearance underneath and allowed the wiring to run from the PCB board on the deck to the auto shut-off board and the control panel. It is possible to add blocks to the wooden runners on which the deck is mounted when received. When time allows wooden panels will be added to complete the cabinet.
One slight alteration to the instructions was to mount the auto shut-off PCB with the board outside so that the lettered pins faced outwards facilitating the wiring operation. Now, one very important point! Before finally fixing the deck it is essential to drill holes in the baseboard to coincide with the positions of the six pre-set pots on the main PCB or it will be quite impossible to adjust them later, as is
required in the instructions. This was a bit tedious but well worthwhile in the end. Alternatively a hole about $3 \times 2 \mathrm{in}$. would probably suffice.

The wiring instructions were quite clear and logical and the wiring operation took a leisurely three hours. If any other layout is used, which is permissible, some of the lead lengths will need amending.

## ADJUSTMENTS

After checking the wiring the unit was switched on and the voltage to the main PCB checked. This was 13 V which seemed reasonable although the correct value is not mentioned in the text, although I feel it ought to be. The operation of the various keys revealed the error in the instructions mentioned earlier. One is advised to connect the deck to the resident hi-fi amplifier for audio checks but in fact the headphone socket is quite adequate for all the tests required. Apart from the fact that the hi-fi is usually in a room elsewhere! A stereo tape was put in and the keys checked.

The adjustments required are to the six pre-set pots and the azimuth setting of the record/play head. The instructions are adequate albeit a bit terse. An example:-'set bias pre-set controls 5 and 6 to their mid-track position'. A little more information here would have been welcome. The azimuth adjustment is for 'maximising output level on high frequency notes' but unless one has a proper tape I would suggest that the head be left alone. The factory-set position turned out to be about right. The adjustment is the springloaded screw on the left of the head, which is not too clear in the photo on the instruction sheet.

A test signal of 60 mV at 1 kHz is required to be fed in and taped while setting two of the pre-sets for the OVU positions on the level meters. When this is done the correct part of the tape is played back and the remaining two pots adjusted for the OVU positions as before. No problems were encountered while making these adjustments as instructed. If you don't happen to have such a test signal it is suggested that the BBC test transmissions are used or even the inter-station noise from an FM tuner. As an experiment an audio tone was used from a communications receiver, beating the BFO against a steady carrier on the medium wave band, and using the high impedance headphone output. After a bit of playing about with the volume control the right level was found and the adjustments made quite satisfactorily.
.The output level on a pair of $8 \Omega$ stereo headphones was adequate but the level can be changed by altering the ratio of the resistor divider on the headphone socket.

## CONCLUSIONS

The kit is excellent value for money. The wiring is quite straightforward and the necessary adjustments easy to make even without any special equipment. Remember however, that YOU have to provide, and probably make, the cabinet unless it is fitted into an existing cabinet with other. equipment. Do not ask or expect help from RT-VC in this connection. I was delighted with the performance of the kit when it was finally connected to the domestic hi-fl. Left was left and right was right, thank goodness! I can recommend the kit to anyone other than the complete beginner but do follow the instructions carefully as obviously a lot of work has gone into their preparation:

The kit, price $£ 32 \cdot 50$, can be obtained by calling at either 323 Edgeware Road, London W2, or 21c High Street, Acton, London W3 6NG. It can also be obtained by post from the Acton address but add RT-VC to the address and $£ 1.50$ to the cheque to cover post and packing.

## PLEASE MENTION PRACTICAL WIRELESS WHEN REPLYING TO ADVERTISEMENTS

JINGLE MACHINE-continued from page 404
record the cue tone on the cassette. This can be derived from an oscillator, set to about 1 kHz , or alternatively, a tone may be obtained from Hi-Fi test records or even the Greenwich Time Signal may be used. Switch the cassette recorder to play and wait until the leader tape has passed over and the recording tape is reached. The tone source is then connected to the record sockets and about one second of this signal is recorded.

Rewind the cassette once more but then switch S3 to "Auto" which brings the jingle machine into use, also switch on the supply to the unit. With the cassette reconder switched to "Play" operate the start button. The cassette will play, and then be switched off, a few seconds after the end of the tone burst. The jingle can now be recorded with 53 switched to "Normal", once this is completed the cassette can be replayed with S3 on "Auto" so that the cassette recorder switches off automatically once the jingle is over. The jingle can be repeated a further nine times, then the cassette is left blank for 15 seconds. Proceed then to use the cassette for recording other material.

After the last jingle, use a chinagraph pencil, or poster paint, to mark the end of the jingle section of the cassette as this helps to prevent the section of tape containing other material being played instead of the jingle. Suitable jingles and sound effects can be taken from records.

Label the cassette case on the opposite edge to the normal title section on the plastic lid. Print either an index number appropriate to that jingle or use an abbreviated form of the title. Then whenever jingles are needed, the cassettes are stored close at hand with the jingle title showing instead of the cassette titles.

Prior to the jingles being used the cassettes are fully re-wound and cued using the tone burst. Then when required, the jingle is played by merely inserting into the player, jingle machine on automatic, and supply on. Switch the cassette recorder to play, then at the appropriate time operate the start button whereupon the jingle will play. When completed, remove the cassette and check for the mark denoting the end, re-cue if necessary, and replace the cassette in the rack.

The remote control unit may be built using a small plastic container which has a single press switch inside. This is wired to a 3.5 mm jack plug for insertion into socket SK1. This is ideal when the jingle machine cannot be accommodated on the console. Pw

See October issue for a mains power unit.

## HIDLUDIEI

## CASSETTE POWER SUPPLY FOR CARS. <br> AUGUST 1976.

The circuit diagram (Fig. 1.) has an error in that the base of Tr 3 has connected to the wrong end of R3. It should not go to the positive output line but to the emitter of Trl. The PCB layout is correctly output line but to the em
drawn in this instance.
drawn in this instance.
However, there is an error on the wiring pattern in the area above the IPC mark. The two vertical holes, battery positive and FI. must be isolated from the rest of the pattern. Boards supplied by our Readers PCB Service will be correct.


## RESISTOR SELECTION HANDBOOK

By B．B．Babani
Published by Babani Press，
The Grampians，Shepherds Bush Road，London，W6 7 NF．
48 pages $17 \mathrm{cms} \times 10.5 \mathrm{cms}$
Price 60p

THIS book tells you in English，German，French，Dutch， Italian，Spanish，Portuguese，Danish，Swedish and Norwegian，how to combine two preferied values to obtain any required values of resistance．Some information about fixed resistors，standard ranges，colour codes and markings are also included together with a section on power ratings of fixed resistors．The book which obtained some of its material from Electronics Australia，is completed by an item on resistor calculation formulae．
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## ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS FOR MODEL RAILWAYS <br> By M．H．Babani，B．Sc．（Eng） <br> Published by Babani Press，

The Grampians，Shepherds Bush Road，London，W6 7NF
91 pages $18 \mathrm{cms} \times 10.5 \mathrm{cms}$
Price 85p

THE book begins with constructional details of a simple model train control and a controller with simulated inertia．The reader is then told how to build a signal system，how to suppress RF interference from model rail－ ways and supply lighting for model trains．Further projects include a high－power controller，an electronic steam whistle and a＂chuffer＂．
A list of semiconductor equivalents is included together with details of available nickel－cadmium batteries and cells．
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## AUDIO ENTHUSIASTS HANDBOOK

## By B．B．Babani

Published by Bernards（Publishers）Ltd．，
The Grampians，Shepherds Bush Road，London，W6 7NF．
96 pages $18 \mathrm{cms} \times 10.5 \mathrm{cms}$
Price 85p

$T 1$HE Contents of this book，which includes material previously published in Electronics Australia magazine are：record／playback curve；stylus compliance，mass， etc：disc recordings－then and now；how do we evaluate loudness？；how compatible is compatible？；more about acoustic feedback；what＇s all this about Hi－Fi？；amplifier power ratings；less noise－more dynamic range；why the elliptical stylus？；stereo tape track standards；compensating sideways drag；equipment performance－some typical figures；how to control volume on a supplementary speaker； recording 78 r．p．m．discs with minimal background noise， and plckup tracking error－cause，effect and cure．

## IEEUSTOI

## SEPTEMBER ISSUE

## －UP－conventin

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## PART 2

## M.J.HUGHES M.A.,C.Eng. MIERE

## WRITING PRINCIPLES

Whether the unit reads or writes is determined by the signal level on the link between the Write Control block and the RAM (see Fig. 2). This is the R/W (Read/NOT Write) line. Normally this line is kept at a logic level "L" which enobles the system to read out of the memory. Last month's explanations of the READ cycle assumed that this was the case. There are 6 data lines feeding into the Random Access Memory and when R/W is at level " 1 " the RAM
will take no notice of signals on the data lines but if the logic level falls to a " 0 " the logic conditions of the data line will be latched onto whatever part of the RAM's memory is being addressed by the Address Counter.

Imagine the system operating in slow motion. The Address Counter will be telling the RAM to give out data, from each of its address locations, to produce the right character in the correct position on the television screen one after the other. Let's say we




Fig. 3. Graphical representation of the Adoress Codes defining the Character Cells within a field and the Picture Points within a Character Cell.
want to type in an extra character in the first column of the third row of characters. This character would be held in the position of memory with the address 0010 (Row) and 0000 (Column) (see Fig 3). We have to arrange that the data to describe the character (say the letter E) is placed on the input lines to the RAM. This is done by pressing the correct key of the keyboard and the ASCII code 000101 (see Fig 4) is put on the data lines as soon as the key is depressed and is held there for as long as the key is pressed. Remember that the $R / \bar{W}$ is normally at " 1 " and the RAM will take no notice of the data. This is just as well, because the address is changing all the time and if the RAM did not ignore the data until some special signal comes along we would write the letter $E$ into every location of the memory, thus filling the screen with Es!

The RAM will only accept the data when the $R / \bar{W}$ signal goes to " 0 " and we arrange for this to happen at the moment the output from the Address Counter is interrogating the position of the memory into which we wish to place this data. This is easily done by making use of a second type of binary counter called an Address register. This counter has 5 stages, exactly matching the five stages in the Address Counter, which describe the Column Addresses to the RAM and it also has 4 stages to match the Row Address Counters in the Address Counter. The Binary states of the stages of the Address Register are static (i.e. do not change) until we depress the line feed key of the keyboard, press a character key or spacer bar. If any of these happen the Row or Column Address Registers will count up by one (Increment) except in the case of reverse operation when the Registers count downwards and will decrement. The registers thus hold the address of the position of the next character to be printed on the screen. More will be said about this portion of the system later.

The nine address lines from the Register are fed to a COMPARATOR which compares them with the 9 RAM Address lines from the Address Counter.

Only when the Address Counter output exactly matches the output of the Address Register will the Comparator give an output signal. This signal is fed through the Write Control unit in which the pulse is shortened to occur in the centre of the address code duration (it is also inhibited at certain portions of the addressing cycle by the Write Window signal which comes from the Address Counter-again more about this later). The processed signal becomes our R/W and causes the latter line to drop to logic level " 0 " at the exact moment we are addressing the memory for the position on the screen we wish the character to occur. The 6 data lines are thus recorded in that location of memory and in no other place.

## CURSOR SIGNAL

It should now become clear as to how we generate the Cursor signal. This is a chequered pattern which is superimposed on the screen in the position which will be the next place to accept a character. This is defined by the output of the Comparator. The Comparator output will be " 1 " every time there is an address coincidence i.e. for the full duration of the TV raster line on every raster line of the cell in question. If we superimposed this coincidence signal on our final video we would make the whole of the cell WHITE. While this would do it is a simple matter, in practice, to break up the signal to provide the chequered effect. This is done by gating the output of the Comparator with signals from the Address Counter within the Cursor Generator Circuitry. This compound signal can be over-ridden by the "Cursor Extinguish" signal which is controlled by a switch on the front panel of the instrument.

## KEYBOARD STROBE

We have oversimplified the output of the keyboard unit slightly. It is true that depressing the correct key will produce the ASCII code but it is possible that there may be internal delays in the generation of each bit of the code. It is therefore necessary to
have a slightly delayed "STROBE" signal generated by the keyboard which is used to tell the rest of the system that it can accept the data as being valid. In the prototype unit there was approximately 1.5 mS delay between the data being set up and the strobe signal starting. This is ample delay as the minimum required by the system is $2 \mu$ S AFTER the data has reached a stable condition. There is no maximum delay.

By making use of this strobe signal one could economise by not using a conventional keyboard and simply use seven toggle switches, together with a push button, to enter data. The data would be set in ASCII code on the seven switches (remember we only need the least significant six bits for memory but the seventh bit is required for control functions) and the strobe simulated by the push button-which would have to be protected against contact bounce. A circuit for such a system will be shown at the end of the series.

## KEYBOARD INTERFACE

This circuit accepts all seven data lines from the keyboard, together with the strobe, and passes the least significant six bits directly to the RAM data inputs without any processing whatsoever. It does, however, use all seven bits of data to decide which are WRITING and which are NON-WRITING codes. The strobe, together with the address coincidence signal, is used as the prime source of the $R / \bar{W}$ signal, as already discussed, and the keyboard interface over-rides the write command when a non-writing code is generated from the keyboard, e.g. Line Feed, Carriage Return, Forward/Reverse or Cursor Step. Apart from inhibiting the Write Command on these control signals it decodes and feeds them to the Address Register on four separate lines.

## ADDRESS REGISTER

This comprises two binary counting chains. One is a five bit counter describing the position of a cell in a particular row (column address) and the other a four bit counter defining the row on the page. They differ from conventional counters because they are reversible (i.e. respond to an UP/DOWN command) to enable Forward/Reverse operation. They are also "Dead End" counters. This means that when the outputs are "All Ones" when counting upwards the
counter stops in that condition instead of cycling round again for a second or third time. Likewise when counting downwards they stop when they reach "All Noughts". Without this "Dead End" facility there would be a danger of "over-writing" a line of text if one inadvertantly ran off the end of that line.

All stages of the Address Registers can be reset to Zero by means of the "Reset" signal generated from a front panel push button. This is a quick way of starting at Address 00000 (Column) 0000 (Row) which is the top left hand cell on the page, the normal starting point for writing.
The signals from the Keyboard Interface act on the Address Registers as follows:
Line Feed Increments the Row Address Register
Carriage Return Resets the Column Address Register to 00000
Forward/Reverse Toggles a flip flop which changes the direction of both the Row and Column Address Registers
Character Step This is a combined signal generated from Cursor Step and any WRITING code (e.g. a character or a character space) and increments the Column Address Register.

## CONSTRUCTION

We can now start detailed construction instructions and as we go through the system we shall describe the workings of the various stages in more detail.
The system comprises three printed circuit boards and an aluminium plate holding the power supply components in place. These four "Modules" are mounted above a main aluminium chassis by screws and spacers. The Clare Pendar keyboard, used in the prototype, has a certain amount of circuitry associated with it but this is integral to the keyboard as purchased and need not be considered at this stage.

Fig. 5. The schematic diagram of the power supply to provide the two voltage levels at their correct currents.



Fig. 6. The component layout for the power supply board, Athough the bridge rectifer for the 5 V supply is shown as square it is in order to use in-line units proynded they meet the electrical spec. and will fl.

## $\star$ components list

```
Power Supply Unit
Resistars
    R1% 670010% 10W.
```


## Capacitors

```
C5 4,700/t 25 Fmin .
C6 \(1,000_{1} \mathrm{FF} 50 \mathrm{~V} \mathrm{~min}\).
```


## Semiconductors



## Wiscellaneous

$7^{\prime \prime} \times 6^{\prime \prime} 14$ gauge aluminium for base. $7^{*} \times 2^{*}$ SRBP fer 12 V supply board. Board pins; Solder tags. 2 smatl heatsinks for TO-3, Home Radio type TRas or simitar, 2 Pele, mains rated swith ( S 5 ). Transtormer, mains in, 9 V at 2 A out, Douglas, type MT-3-AT tapped between 15 V and 24 V or simita (T). Thanstormer, mains in, $12 V$ at 100 mA out, coutd be 6-0-6V with cevare tap open cifctit (T2).

Apart from the keyboard and modulator units the only power requirenent is +5 V at an average current of about $1-5 A$ (peaking for short durations to 2A). The specified keyboard needs an extra power rail, nominally -12 V at a few milliamps, as well as the +5 V rail. If alternative keyboards, or toggle switches, are used the -12 V rail may not be needed. The specified "Crofton" modulator sequires a -12 V rail and the power unit we describe is capable of providing sufficient current for both modulator and keyboard.

## POWER SUPPLY UNIT

Fig 5 shows that the +5 V and -12 V rails are totally independent.

The +5 V supply requires a generously rated transformer capable of supplying 9 V at up to 2 A rms. This is fed to a $3 A$ bridge rectifier and a smoothing capacitor, then split to feed two separate " 7805 " five volt regutator ICs. Two are used because a single regulator would have difficulty in handling the current requirement for the whole unit. The regulators are bolted to small heatsinks which, in turn, are fixed to the aluminium base plate.

The -12V supply originates from a $6-0-6 \mathrm{~V}$, 100 mA transformer with the centre tap unused. This is bolted to an SRBP board on which the rest of the components are mounted with pins. Because the current required is small it is possible to use 1N4148 diodes as rectifiers and the nominal -12 V is obtained by tapping across a 400 mW zener diode.

It is suggested that the power unit be built first, following the layout of Fig. 6, as it can then be used to test the other three boards as they are built.

Next month we shall continue the construction and operation detail.

# EXHIBITION of Military © Civilian <br>  

ANOTHER raining Bank Holiday-what shall we do? How about a museum? Want to lose the, kids for a couple of hours? Take them to a museum. Any museum, doesn't really matter, as long as it achieves its purpose-as an excuse. Well that was probably the old idea of trips to a museum when they were dark and foreboding places, but today things have changed, as I found out during the Spring Bank Holiday this year.

I was in Horsham, Sussex, a small town about 20 miles from Worthing, where I visited the local museum which is housed in a 16th century timber

framed house in the Causeway. Expecting the usual sort of displays, I was pleasantly surprised to find an exhibition of civilian and military radio dating back to the early part of the century. This of course was only one part of the museum, the remaining sections depicted local shops of a bygone age such as a saddlers, wheelwrights and blacksmiths. Also amongst the collections was a display of bicycles ranging from the Victorian hobby-horse to the safety bicycle of Edwardian days.

However to get back to the collection which especially interests all of us, the various pieces of equipment were lent to the museum by Mr Ron Ham of Storrington, who compiled the collection from various enthusiasts including himself, the Worthing ATC, and local collectors.

## Spark transmitter

The first photograph would at first sight appear to be a high quality piece of transmitting equipment suited to the home of a well-to-do country gentleman during the second decade of this century. In fact it's a first World War service issue for use by the infantry

in the trenches. It's a spark transmitter receiver and requires an aerial of up to 80 yards to obtain any sort of transmitting distance. Cabinet is in solid mahogany or similar wood with solid brass contacts and terminals. The finish is superb and was originally built by Marconi. Notice the circuit diagram on the underside of the lid-useful for in-trench repairs!

After the first World War, amplification equipment took on a new trendy image, and the second photograph shows an audio amplifier with matching loudspeaker! Both were made in America in the 1920 s by Magnavox Co. The amplifier used three bright emitter valves each with a separate variable filament control and an individual switch for each stage. The large pot at the base of the Horn speaker is the energising coil, and to its left is the output transformer. Situated behind the amplifier and speaker is a cabinet of old periodicals published in the early 1920s, and Broadcast Licences dating back to 1923.


One of the latter is a licence for the Home Constructor! and cost ten shillings. An interesting point is that before this licence could be issued the apparatus had to be approved by the BBC. Most of these licences came from the collector and original recipient Mr Cyril Largen.

## Record breaker

Moving on a few years to the mid thirties, the next photograph depicts the late Miss Nell Corry G2YL and some of her radio equipment, all of which was home made in her Surrey home. She is particularly remembered for her part in creating radio history on the 27th October 1935. On this day she managed to contact six radio stations situated in six continents. Also shown is the morse key that she used for this attempt, her car radio badge and tuning capacitor.

A little before this time, in about 1931, Pye launched on an unsuspecting public, their first 'portable' model. No Trades description act in those days! As it weighs at least 30 lbs it is hardly portable and required an accumulator, multi-tap 120 V battery and a grid bias battery to drive it. The accumulator would have to be recharged at 3 to 4 day intervals, when it would have been carried to the local shops or garage to be charged. The other two batteries lasted on average about five months. A useful titment to this set was a metal turntable fitted to the base of the set, which allowed the receiver to be rotated for accurate, and best reception. Compare this description with the next photograph. This was

produced by the Ever-Ready company only nine years later in 1940. The relevant size can be judged by the 50p piece along side the model. Needless to say the Ever-Ready model created quite a stir when introduced and was made possible by the use of miniature glass valves and a certain amount of 'shoe horning'.

## Military equipment

At the onset of the second World War, military equipment in the transmitting/receiving fields was quite bulky but reasonably reliable. Possibly those who served in tanks will remember the next picture which is of the famous ' 19 ' set used throughout the war. However the particular thing about this model is that although manufactured by the Canadian Electric Co, the dial markings are in both English

and Russian. The explanation is that during the offences the tanks could be operated by either British troops or our 'allies'--can't quite see that happening today! Shown in the next photograph is the ' 38 ' infantry set which was carried on the shoulder and was complete with throat microphone and headphones that could be worn under the helmet. In the foreground is a box of spare valves with instructions for 'fault-finding'.

Moving up into the air now, the RAF at this time was equipped with two very well known pieces. For the 'Spitfires the, TR9-F transmitter/receiver was used in early wartime planes and derived its power

from a single HT battery, a grid-bias battery and an accumulator. If the pilot had to bale out in a hurry, a special jack plug was invented that released itself, so preventing the pilot from coming to an unfortunate end. This model is shown to the left

of the next photograph, while to the right is the equipment used in Lancaster bombers. These were the T1154 transmitter above, and the R1155 receiver below.

## Equipment for spies

The fintal photograph shows radio equipment used by SOE (Strategic Operations Executive) agents. In other words equipment used by spies! The large suitcase model, the B2 was carried around by agents and covered only by a thin layer of clothing as shown here. The morse key, which is a very small affair, is sited in the top left hand corner, while the aerial is a thin piece of wire, perhaps five feet long attached to the nearest convenient spot. Alternative coils can

be seen in the foreground, the total weight of the equipment is quite astounding considering the distances it had to be carried.

## Repeat performance

There were many other notable pieces in this display, but space has limited us to these models. Unfortunately the exhibition has now finished at the Horsham Museum, but will be on display again at the Worthing Museum. The dates for this latter exhibition will be from August 10th and run for about six weeks, and will include several new items such as two pre-war Philips radio sets, an army signalling unit employing an Aldis lamp and a special aircraft morse key used in war-time Lancaster bombers,

#  

## Digital Frequency Meter, June/July 1976

The four display boards required for this project are now available from the PW Readers pcb Service. The Ref. number is A004 and the price for four-off is $£ 3 \cdot 32$, and one-off $£ 1 \cdot 01$. Both prices are inclusive of p\&p and VAT.

The following points should also be noted in connection with this project:

R7 should be $10 \Omega$ (Fig. 7)
R3 and not R1 should be 1W (component list)
Breaks should be made in the tracks of the main board (Fig. 11) at the following points: $\mathrm{W} 51, \mathrm{X} 51, \mathrm{Y} 51$ and all seven tracks under IClO.


## CB for UK

I read with interest your leader in the July issue of PW, particularly as I have just returned from the United States where I was able to observe the current CB "craze" at first hand. Whilst agreeing in the main with your comments I feel I must make some observations.

The 27 MHz band allocated to CB users has been divided into 23 channels, channel 9 of which has been reserved as an emergency channel and channel 19 of which is commonly regarded for use by highway users. Although channel 19 was certainly busy there was little evidence that the amount of traffic was causing serious communications difficulties, mainly due I suspect to the limitation in the range of $C B$ mobiles to about 5 miles. There is apparently a proposal to increase the number of channels to around eighty by introducing SSB. Provided a similar system of channelling is introduced in Britain, with or without SSB, I cannot see that there would be any serious problem with overcrowding on the band.

There is no doubt that in the state of North Carolina at least the CB facility is regarded as a "good thing", not least by the Police force who monitor and record all transmissions on Channél 9 .

If the RSGB would take the initiative and press the Government to introduce a CB band on the lines of the American system somewhere in the radio fre-
quency spectrum (it need not be 27 MHz ) the RSGB would not only place themselves in a strong position by being able to recommend to the Government what restrictions on licensing etc should be introduced, but would do their members a service by providing a means of communication to those many members of the public who could usefully use such a facility and who are at present frustrated by the licensing system. If membership of the RSGB were made a condition precedent to the obtaining of a CB licence the RSGB would have a lot to gain by making its proposals to the Government at the earliest possible opportunity. J. B. HowellPryce (Oxford).

## You've been warned

I have taken PW since 1963 and have, in general always agreed in principle to the contents therein.

However, I received the July magazine today and eagerly opened the pages to the Leader Article which was about the inevitable UK "Citizen's Band", and was motivated to write to you by the phrase: "There should be very stiff penalties for pirate stations. . .".

Now before I am swotted down with a good solid piece of irrevocably conceived "and so there ******-well should be" please allow me to say that every man has his story to tell, and would you kindly let me relate my experiences to you, the backbone of wireless, which simply means all the readers of Practical Wireless.

Some years ago I experimented with very-low-power transmitters on the MW-Band (on 1562 kHz and, Caroline was not on, on 1187 kHz ). I used a good Crystal Drive Unit with an oven, the thermostat of which was adjusted critically to obtain exceptional accuracy. (The crystals were finetuned in the evening to the distant signals that appeared on the two channels used; typically an accuracy of one cycle in one minute could be achieved, even after taking into account the fact that two distant signals themselves were at times fluttering somewhat).

Because of someone playing a
stupid prank I soon had an official visit by the GPO who, after ordering me to switch off my transmitter, proceeded to take down the description and serial numbers of my domestic radio equipment (I used to be a compulsive collector of all the latest transistor radios and recorders that came out!) that happened to be in the lounge at the time, where I had the transmitter.

When my case came up (!) the magistrates fined me $£ 75+£ 50$ costs, and as if that was not enough, they confiscated my much - loved transmitter (naturally) and they also confiscated my dear EC10 receiver. They also took my old record player and my field-strength meter and tried to get a highquality reel-to-reel recorder a cassette recorder and a portable radio. T. W. Hillyard (Northampton).
Let this be a warning to all potential illegal transmitter operators. We fully agree with the action -taken by the GPO, who, as can be seen above, are not foolingEd.

## Model control v. CB

I recently joined the United Kingdom Citizen's Band Campaign, not being very technical, it is probably the only way that I shall get on the air. It also coincides with my belief that radio should be free of unnecessary restrictions. This depends on whether we ever get CB licences in the UK, because I think we shall have a very hard fight, especially on the 27 MHz band.

The real opposition will come from the Model Control fraternity, because it seems that in the UK our Home Office have given them practically exclusive rights to all channels between $26 \cdot 96-27 \cdot 28 \mathrm{MHz}$.

The UKCBC have an information sheet 2 which suggests that for Europe there are 6 channels exclusive for Model Control and 2 shared.

You might say why not use other bands or even VHF or UHF, but I think it would lose the international appeal if we did not have the same as Europe and USA namely the 27 MHz band. Though I agree the chances of the
skip being OK and to be able to hold a signal on a crowded band are limited, nevertheless the appeal is there.

So I would say before we have a Citizen's Band in this country an agreement will have to be made with the Model Control Fraternity.

The Practical Wireless has a full page written by the Editor, who says that there will be a Citizen's Band in the UK, but doesn't say when, and suggests that there be a condition of membership of the RSGB (I am a member $£ 8$ per yr.) before any licence is issued. All I can say is what about the other Radio and Recording Clubs providing they are not too snooty to embrace CB members.

You have to remember that in USA and Canada and no doubt in Europe, the CB clubs are big business with glossy magazines, why shouldn't some of the existing clubs get in on the act.

Finally I must admit that we do not have distance problems like they have in USA and Canada and emergency systems like REACT would be useful but not really necessary. However, there are the old, disabled, and the lonely who could benefit from CB radio and I am all for it, especially as we are now at the bottom of the propagation cycle and reception is bound to improve.-Stan Playle (Welwyn Garden City)

## Cheap-at-the-price

I feel bound to comment on Mr. Dowdeswell's tacit support of the comments made by A. J. Lees and G4CEX in the May edition of Practical Wireless.
It may be that the former has not read the technical topics in Radio Communication, nor has he seen the many simpler articles published therein. Nevertheless, he must be aware that the Radio Society of Great Britain is not simply a publishing house, it exists for the furtherance of Amateur Radio Communication and Experimentation. If G4CEX wishes to retain frequency, repeater, beacon, and mote facilities after 1979 which the Society has obtained for all amateurs at its own expense, then it is his duty to rejoin the Society and to willingly give his annual subscription of $£ 8$
which after all represents the cost of motoring 100 miles.
Let him also buy the new copy of the Handbook which when published will undoubtedly be as complete a guide as the last edition was to the subject in which he is interested.-W. M. Miller (Cambridge)

## Valves?

In writing this rather critical letter, about the magazine Practical Wireless, I believe I am voicing the attitude of many people who now buy it only rarely, while in the past, they used to buy it each month. The reason is that although it is titled Practical Wireless, there isn't any "wireless" in it. In case you are not aware, wireless sets use valves, not semiconductors. Nowadays it seems that your magazine contains nothing buit electronic gimmickery, with no sign of any wireless circuitry anywhere. If you intend to keep to the present policy of making little or no difference between the two magazines, namely, Practical Wireless and Practical Electronics, then there is little point in being two.

By the way, don't think that I am what you might call elderly, I have just passed the thirty mark, but it would seem from your magazine that you are aiming exclusively at the under-twenty group.-Alexander Dodd (Glasgow)

## 2 metre repeater

May I express my growing concern for the sanity of our 2 m VHF Band. In the past two years, 2 m has been eroded from an interesting, friendly, experimental, amateur band, to an unsociable mess of channelised/ Mobilised debris.
The introduction of Simplex working was quite bad enough, (instigated, perhaps by the "blackbox" fraternity), but the new onset of repeaters, requiring not one, but two channels is just about the last straw.
It is in fact difficult to appreciate how consistently operating
through a repeater can fulfil the licence conditions i.e. "self training in the art of telecommunications", (even worse with a "blackbox"). After all does the amount of mobile activity on 2 m justify the dedication of so much air space.

In view of all this, would it not be possible to negotiate for the 4 m band to be available to G83's and kill two birds, as it were?

1) Populate a 'dead' band
2) Organise a VHF band with no repeaters, and no channelised segments.

A band of this type is still very necessary for the newly licenced man who wants to be an amateur, rather than a push button operator, whilst not delving into the "microwave oven".-E. Watt (Kidsgrove)

## CB in Canada

I feel I must comment on your editorial in the July edition of $P W$ about Citizen Band Radio. I must congratulate you on your comments about linking CB in the UK with the RSGB for proper instruction of licencees. I lived in Canada for some time and I was the proud owner of a CB licence, but I must point out that even though an awful lot of people operate Citizens Band radio's the power output to the RF stage in these sets is only 5 W .

In my experience of $C B$ the only time I got a feeling of overcrowding on the 23 channels we worked on was when the skip came in. In my opinion though the pro's far outweigh the con's for CB radio, so that when I arrived in Canada for the first time I obtained a CB radio and through this I met a lot of people and made a lot of friends. I found that it is much more entertaining than television and on a Sunday night we held a net in our district which is just like being on a giant telephone party line. One more thing before I close, I was a member of REACT an emergency club who's sole aim is to provide instant radio communication in the event of any accident or emergency.

Citizen Band radio can't come to Britain fast enough for my liking, and I would like to apply for my licence now.-Ian Mclean (Renfrewshire)

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## by Eric Dowdeswell G4AR

IF you get the feeling that this month's effort is being written from an unusual angle, you could be right! I'm afraid your's truly is flat on his back in hospital after an operation to "decompress" the spine. Ugh! Soon I hope to be able to stand upright again instead of resembling Old Father Time! The major part of my anatomy is horizontally polarised, but from time to time my stub end becomes vertically polarised!

Someone has suggested that I pass the time with a transceiver but since every other patient in the ward seems to have his own portable TV I don't think I'd be very popular!

I do hope that those of you who aspire to an Amateur licence will not drop everything after reading the Editor's piece on Citizen's Band matters, in the July issue. I have always maintained that the authorities will never issue such "mail order"' permits in this country. Anyone with a genuine reason for requiring receive/transmit radio facilities can already get the appropriate licence from the Home Office.

The CB in the USA is in utter chaos with what should be a short range walkie-talkie type of service developing into a trans-continental operation with very high power and sophisticated aerial systems! You can be sure that a lot of the pro-CB hot air comes from those whose main interest is not necessarily the same as that of the potential CB'er.
J. Griffin, residing in Darlington, writes to mention a few of the highlights of the 48 years he has enjoyed in amateur radio. His earliest logging was of Marconi himself from his yacht in the Med! Pity he didn't have a tape recorder handy! Present set is a Codar CR7OA but decent aerials are a problem.

Don't forget OM that in "difficult" situations there is no need to use 16SWG copper wire. Enamelled 24SWG wire is just about invisible. Buttons can be used as insulators between the wire and say a length of black twine. A small weight on the end of the twine, a few twirls and the aerial can be high up in a tree or on top of a roof. Put the reel of wire on a screwdriver blade and it will run off easily. Keep the wire away from walls, buildings etc., until it enters the shack and don't forget to use an ATU!

Dennis Anderson eventually got his 62 set going but soon returned to the DX150A using a 20 m dipole.

QRM from local colour TV's is still a problem in spite of experiments with various suppressors and filters. Robin Bayley, near Wolverhampton, is now A9203 and studying furiously for his RAE which he hopes will get him on the air in ' 77 .

Andrew Swiffin, A8063, reports again after an absence of six months due to ' $A$ ' level duties. Current project is a portable receiver with converters into a car radio covering 2 to 160 m . Andrew suggests all ex-readers of this feature now having callsigns should form a 'PW net' on 80 m on Sunday mornings. Good idea, although I'd feel guilty at not being able to join in at the moment!

Those of you waiting impatiently for the article on SSTV by Paul Barker might like to write to MK Products, 5 Lancashire Drive, Belmont, Durham for information on their various PCB's and other bits and pieces that Paul has used in his monitor. MK Products happen to be G3LIV and G3DRI so they ought to know something about this SSTV lark!

I usually find something of interest in 'TARS TALK', magazine of the Torbay ARS. Unusually, they accept Associate members for a very reasonable 75p a year which includes the magazine. Try raising them on the new Torbay net on 3758 kHz at 09.30 every morning. If a local "regular" doesn't report in for three consecutive days enquiries are made to see if all is well. Sounds like a good basis for keeping some of our lonely Senior Citizens in touch with the outside world. Write to Fred Bolton, G3VTQ, 23 Waverley Road, Newton Abbott, South Devon for more on TARS.

Another active group is the West of Scotland ARS which, at its AGM, elected GM3EDZ as President, GM3AXX as Chairman and George Milne, GM4BLO as Secretary. Club rooms and station GM4AGG at 22 Robertson Street, Glasgow, G2 8DU, are open every Friday at 7.30 pm so get along there or write to George at 22 Norse Road, Scotstown, Glasgow. SWL's are very active in the club so don't be shy if you haven't got a callsign!

Apologies if I have not answered all those who have written in but I should be upright again in a couple of weeks and, hopefully, be able to bash the typewriter again!

## Log extracts

R. Bayley:- 80 m HP3AU JA1JRK UA9CM (CW) 40m JX2HK UP8AA PY7PO (CW) 20m PZlDR VE8RE FL8CE (CW)
D. Anderson:- 20m JG10QZ KZ5HP TG9LL VK7BC YSIACS 15m CX6AM KP4ECH TJ1BB ZP5WM 9X5SM

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Elac $6 \frac{1}{1 "}^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{d} / \mathrm{cone}$, roll surr. 8 ohms
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SHORT WAVE BROADCASTS

## by Derek Bell

Thiam chee ming from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia opens this month's column with a comprehensive log that shows us the type of signals that our fellow DXers on the other side of the globe can pull in. Alongside this Thiam includes a snippet of station news.
Burma Broadcasting on 9725 at 0700
Voice of Indonesia on 11970 at 0900
Radio Thailand on 11905 at 0415
FEBA Seychelles on 15270 at 0410
The last logging, that of FEBA, was a test transmission that was to investigate the paths into East Africa. Indeed the FEBA organisation has quoted an address in EA which to me indicates that they are fairly certain that a signal into that continent is a feasable proposition and that is PO Box 21163, Nairobi, Kenya, or if you want to contact "head office" write to PO Box 234, Seychelles, Indian Ocean. Having given details of the signal heard, the SINPO rating, details of your set, aerial etc, along with time and date, name and address, FEBA will send you a QSL.
These items will, I hope, satisfy the curiosity of David Burnett of Liverpool who was asking how to obtain QSLs. David's other question was about International Reply Coupons. These can be obtained from the Post Office but beware, if you use the air letter form nothing can be enclosed iṇ it. David on his Vega Selena picked up Radio Grenada and would like to know the address, which is PO Box 34, Morne Rouge, St. Georges, Grenada.
In Inverness John McCleod has recently had quite a surprise when he had a QSL from Radio Peace and Progress. This took twenty four days to return, and as John says a letter takes eleven days each way between here and the USSR then the report must have gone through the channels in two days! Another item of station news concerns Trans World Radio, Monte Carlo on 7100 from 0920 and on 9525 at 0940 and asking for listener's reports for the "DX special" programme. This item is from Robin Bayley of Kingswood School, Albrighton. I personally can chip in with a small item that perhaps has some significance. Radio Iran took the unusually expensive step of advertising their summer schedules in the personal column of a quality Sunday newspaper recently. The reason behind this is a little puzzling since most stations are suffering from a cutback in budgets but on reflection Iran is one of the oil producing states so perhaps money is not so tight there.
Turning now to the people who are DXers and I must confess that this is a deep interest of mine
since I always enjoy meeting and talking to like minds, a new club "Thames DX Club" craves your attention. This has just been formed and the organiser D. A. Binns, Bargara, Wycombe Road, Stokenchurch, High Wycombe has asked that the club be given a mention and since 1976 is World DX club year I am only to pleased to oblige.

Recently part of this column was taken up with a chat on outdoor aerials of the long wire type, so a long letter from Andrew Sharpe of Rowlands Gill, Tyne and Wear, finishes by asking if plastic-covered clothes line is an efficient means of securing an aerial to a tree. Yes, I would say with reservations, since a lot of these lines have a metal wire core and should the aerial wire in due time pull through the insulation and make contact with the metal core then problems could ensue. A. B. Devitt, on the other hand, would like to know if an ' $L$ ' shape long wire has any advantages over a simple straight one. The answer could be 'yes' since the maximum signal is gathered from, say, east and west of a north-south running wire, to which is added the omni-directional signals from the vertical part.

The European DX Council runs a scheme the sole purpose of which is to help the handicapped DXer/ SWL. I would however like to extend that to licensed Amateurs, if I may be permitted to say so! (How about the RAIBC? A.E.D.) Fred Singleton of 8 Rodsley Close, Holmall Estate, Chesterfield is seeking back numbers of electrical, wireless and electronic publications. Fred recently had to retire at an early age due to illness and to pass the time has renewed his ticket, but would like to catch up on the latest state of our hobby so if you have any old mags cluttering the house please bung them in the post.

Another item of transmitter news that almost went unnoticed was the winding up of the overseas service of the New Zealand Broadcasting system. This was not given the publicity that many stations get when they just reduce their coverage. It seems a pity that this was the case since we DXers deserve a chance to voice a protest if one of (for the UK) the choice DX stations closes.

David Sewell of Peterborough has sent a choice list for those who are African radio enthusiasts. Unfortunately David has not sent details of his set or aerial but despite this his reported times and frequencies are useful for those whose logbooks are thin on African stations.

Radio Mali on 4783 at 2255
Radio Diffusion Mauritania on 4850 at 2340
Voix de la Revolution Dahomey on 4870 at 2235
Radio Diffusion du Tchad on 4904 at 2305
So to close I will wish best 73 s to you and yours.

## BROADCAST BANDS

Short Wave reports by the 15 th of the month to Derek Bell clo. Practical Wireless. Eleetway House Farringdon Street London. EC4A 4AD. Medium Wave Logs to Charles Molloy 132 Segars Lane. Southport PRB $3 J G$

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## MEDIUM WAVE DX <br> by CHARLES MOLLOY

READER Glyn Morgan of Tredegar in Gwent is still active on the medium waves with his HA230 communications receiver and 40ft longwire aerial. His best catch recently has been the 20 kW outlet at Nouakchott in Mauritania which was heard at 2300 on 1349 kHz . This station is not often heard in the UK. Nearer to home, the Irish Speaking Radio (Radio na Gaeltachta) was heard on two different frequencies. On 1250 kHz Donegal was logged with interference from both Dublin the English and Tripoli, Libya in Arabic ( 1000 kW ) while on 962 kHzz Kerry was heard just before it signedoff at 2100 . Glyn mentions hearing an unidentified Arabic speaking station between the European channels 1562 kHz and 1578 kHz . This is probably Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates situated in the Persian Gulf area, which broadcasts on 1575 kHz with a power of 50 kW and is usually a good signal in the UK.

The month of Ramadam, the ninth in the Moslem calandar, starts on August 27th this year and for the medium wave DXer it marks the beginning of a four week period during which broadcasts from the Middle East are prominent on the band. Countries in this area are in time zones some two to four hours ahead of GMT and consequently many of their broadcasting stations will have closed down for the night, by the time it is late evening in the UK and European QRM is beginning to subside. During Ramadam nearly every Arabic speaking station will be on an extended schedule while some will remain on the air all night. The DXer who listens after 2230 GMT will have the opportunity of picking-up countries not normally heard from this area while newcomers should be able to hear stations from North Africa without difficulty, even when using a domestic portable receiver.

Listen for Algiers on 890 kHz and 980 kHz ; Tangiers on 1232 kHz ; Tunis on 629 kHz and 962 kHz ; the two 1000 kW outlets in Libya on 1124 kHz (El Beida) and 1250 kHz (Tripoli); Cairo on 620 kHz and Kuwait on 134 kHz . On the long waves Tipaza in Algeria on 251 kHz (in English at 1900) and Azilal in Morocco on 209 kHz should be located without difficulty. Readers using a portable receiver should rotate it to make use of the directional aerial and reduce interference. Among the more difficult ones are Kuwait on 539 kHz , Cairo on 710 kHz , Riyadh in Saudi Arabia on 587 kHz , Damascus on 665 kHz ,

Baghdad 760 kHz , Zahedan in $\operatorname{Iran} 775 \mathrm{kHz}$, Tartus in Syria 782 kHz , Abu Dhabi 809 kHz , Damman in Saudi Arabia 885 kHz , Quatar 952 kHz , Kermanshah in Iran 985 kHz , Taiz in Yemen on approx. 1005 kHz , Hyderabad in Pakistan 1010 kHz , Istanbul 1016 kHz . Kabul in Afghanistan 1280 kHz and Dubai on 1480 kHz .

Now is a good time to inspect and if necessary overhaul your outdoor aerial. A gradual deterioration in performance can occur un-noticed and sometimes poor results can be traced to a break where the downlead joins the aerial wire and when in sulated wire is used the break can occur under the insulation and not be apparent to a visual inspection. If co-ax cable is used and taken out of doors, it should end in a sealed terminal box and the end of the cable should be dipped in hot wax to prevent water creepage. Stranded copper wire is usually recommended for aerials and while this is essential when transmitting, the writer has found that the plastic covered steel wire on sale in garden shops, is quite adequate for medium wave reception. This wire is normally sold in coils but it can be obtained in small drums and it is a boon in exposed locations where gales can easily cause damage.

Robin Bayley writes again from Albrighton in Staffordshire with news of his first North American capture. Using a Marconi tuner-amplifier and a longwire aerial he logged CJON in St John's Newfoundland on 930 kHz . Congratulations Robin, I hope this will be the first of many transatlantic stations in your log book. J. W. F. McLaren from Galashiels has not been so lucky. He says "WINS on 1010 kHz seems to elude me despite all night watches". Keep trying. Some nights North Americans come roaringin while on others, not a single one can be heard. R. Wyres of Birmingham enquires about the PW Loop Aerial and Balanced FET Pre-amplifier. The article appeared in the April 1973 issue of Practical Wireless, which is now out of print. Bound volumes of PW are kept in main libraries and Xerox copies of articles can often be obtained from the library for a small charge.

Alan Spencer, who writes from Ryhall in Lincolnshire, has been DXing on the medium waves for only a week. Using a Prinzsound RTR16 with internal aerial he logged Trans World Radio in Monte Carlo on 1466 kHz at 2000 with a programme in French followed by another in an unidentified language. (Hungarian is scheduled at 2000).

Alan asks for details of the sort of programme information that should be given in a reception report to a MW station. The report should contain sufficient detail to enable the station staff to identify their own programme. Station slogans, news items, weather reports, details of adverts (jingles), titles of programmes but not of pieces of music, will convince the station that the DXer really did hear their broadcast. The ten minutes from 5 to the hour to 5 past, is often productive when listening to North American DX but no fixed period of time can be specified and the DXer will have to use his own judgement when deciding when he has collected enough for a report. If a tape recording is made of the station announcement it can be played back several times to help the DXer to copy down all the details.


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[^1]:    $15-60 \mathrm{v}$
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    $0.1 \%$

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