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## RSG HIGH-FIDELITY STEREO PACKAGEEFERS <br> Four fully wired units ready to 'plug in' <br> $\star$ SUPER 30 AMPLIFIER $(15+15$ Gatt) in veneered housing <br> * Garrard SP25 MK III Turn- <br> - GOLDRING CS90 Ceram up Cartridge with diamond stylus - PAIR OF STANWAY II Speaker Units Specia <br> Total Price f70. 00 Terms: Deposit $\mathrm{c12}$  $\frac{\text { payments } 18 \cdot 55 \text { (Total } £ 88 \cdot 95 \text { ). }}{\star \text { ( Super } 30 \text { Amplifier }(15+15 \text { watt }}$ in veneered housing <br> * Goldring GL69 II Transcription Turntable on Plinth as illustrated Goldring Magnetic P.U. Cartridge. * Pair of Stanway II f $\mathbf{*} 7.7 \mathrm{Carr}$ speaker units. Terms: Deposit $£ 15$ and 9 monthly ferms: Deposit $£ 15$ and 9 mon payments $£ 10.53$ (Total $£ 114 \cdot 55$ ). <br> ATTRACTIVE AFRORMOSIA VENEERED CABEERED AND PLINTHS <br> Send SAE cond S.A.E. for howing other mone saving offers. <br> Matching as recommended for optimum performanc <br> Package prices apply providing all individy al units are purchased from any branch within 3 months. See leaflet. <br> 

'YORK' HIGH-FIDELITY 3 SPEAKER SYSTEM
$\begin{array}{ll}\star & \text { Moderate size only } 25 \times 14 \times 10 \mathrm{in} . \\ \star \text { Regponse } 30-20,000 \text { c.p.s. } & \text { KIT }\end{array}$
Regponse $30-20,000$ c.p.s. $\quad$ KIT
Impedance 15 ohms
$\star$ Pertormance comparable with units costing considerably more. Consists of (1) 12 in . 15 watt Bass unit with cast chassis, Roll rubber cone tion series cross-ound for uitra low resonance, and ceramic magnet. (2) 3-way quarter efficiency tweeters-(5) Appropriate quantity acoustic damping material. (6) Handsome Teak veneered cabinet. (7) Circtit and full instructions. Terms: Dep. $84 \cdot 60$ and 9 monthly payments $\mathbf{6 2 \cdot 4 7}$ (Total e26.83)

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## BSE G66 Mhut $6+5$ WATT high quality STEREO AMPLIFIET

Individual Ganged Controls: Bass, Treble, Volume and Balance. Printed circuit conItruction employing 10 Transistors plus Diodes. Output rating I.H.F.M. Frequency range $20-20,000$ c.p.s. Bass Control $\pm$ 12db. Treble Control $\pm 13 \mathrm{db}$. Selector switch for P.U. or Tape/Radio. For loudspeaker output
impedances of 3 to 15 ohms. For standard $200-1$ 250 v . A.c. mains operation. Attractive Brack and Silver finished metal facia plate and matching control knobs.
COMPLETE KIT OF PARTS INOLUDING FULLY WIRED PRINTED CTRCTIT and $\left.\begin{array}{ll}\text { comprehensive wiring } \\ \text { diagram and instructions }\end{array} \quad £ \right\rvert\, \mathbf{5 0} \quad$ Carr.
Or FAcTORy RUTLT IN TEAK VENEERED CABINET as illustrated $\mathbf{8 1 5 . 9 8}$ or dep. $£ 3 \cdot 20$ and 9 monthly payments $£ 1-70$ (Total $£ 18 \cdot 50$ ).

## AUDIOTRINE HI-FI SPEAKER SYSTEMS

Consisting of matched 12in. 11,000 line 15 Watt 15 ohm high quality speaker, cross-over unit and tweeter. Smooth response and extended frequency range $£ 5.75$ Carr ens SENTOR 15 WATT INCLUDING 46.75 30p HF126 15,000 LNE SPEAKER $\pm 6.75 \mathrm{Carr}_{35 \mathrm{p}}$ HF126 15,000

AUDIOTRINE HIGH FIDELITY SPEAKERS Heavy construction. Latest high efficiency ceramic magnets, Treated Cone surround. "D" indicates Tweeter Cone providing extended frequency range up tolices. Exceptional performance $\begin{array}{lccccccc}\text { at low cost. } & \text { " } & & & & \\ \text { HF808T } & 8^{\prime \prime} & 10 \mathrm{~W} & £ 2.88 & \text { HF120D } & 12^{\prime \prime} & 15 \mathrm{~W} & £ 4.75 \\ \text { HF102D } & 10^{\prime \prime} & 10 \mathrm{~W} & \mathbf{£ 3 . 4 0} & \text { HF126 } & 12^{\prime \prime} & 15 \mathrm{~W} & £ 5.50\end{array}$
 FANE 807 HIGH FIDELITY SPEAKER A full range sin. 10 watt unit for excellent sound quality, in suitable enclosure. Cast chassis Roll P.V.C. cane surround of low fundamental resonance of 30 c.p.s. Tweeter cone is fitted to extend high note response. Frequency range 25 Hz to 15 KHz . Gauss 10,000. Tmpedance 3 or $8-15 \Omega$. STATE $£ 3.50$

## HIGH FIDELITY LOUDSPEAKER UNITS

Cabinets latest style Satin Teak veneer. Acoustically lined or filled
acoustic damping. Ported where appropriate. Credit terms available. DORCHESTER (Illustrated) Size $16 \times 11 \times 9$ in. appr. Range $45-15,000$ c.p.s. Rating $8-10$ watts. Fitted High flux $13 \times 8 \mathrm{in}$, $\mathbf{t 9 . 4 5}$
Dual Cone speaker. Jnp. 3 or 15 ohms.

STANWAY II Size $20 \times 10 \pm \times 9$ inin. approx. Rating 10 watts. Tnc $13 \times 8 \mathrm{in}$, with highly flexible cone surround, long throw voice coil and 10,000 line magnet. High 8 ohmseeter. Handsome Scandinavian design cabinet. Range $35 \cdot 20,000$ c.p.s. Trap. 8 ohms. Gives smooth realistic sound output. See 'package offers' for $\leq 17.85$
R.S.C. TAI2 MKIII $6.5+6.5$ WATT STEREO AMPLIFIER FULLY TRANSISTORISED, SOLID STATE CONSTRUCTION
HIGH FIDELITY OUTPUT OF 6.5 WATTS PER CHANNEL Designed for optimum performance with any crystal or ceramic Gram. P.U. cartridge, Radio tuner, Tape recorder etc. $\star 3$ separate switched input sockets on each channel $\star$ Separate Bass and Treble controls太 Slide Switch for mono use $\star$ Speaker Output S-15 ohms $\$$ For $200-250 \mathrm{v}$. A.d. mains $\star$ Frequency
Response $20-20,000$ c.p.s. $-2 \mathrm{~dB} \star$ Harmonic Distortion $0.3 \%$ at 1,000 c.p.s. Hum and Noise $-70 \mathrm{~dB} \star$ Seasitivities (1) 50 mV (2) 400 mV (3) 100 mV . Output rating I.H.F.M. $\star$ Handsome finish Facia plate \& Knobs.
 Deposit $£ 3$ and 9 mthly pymts $£ 2 \cdot 15$ (Total $£ 28 \cdot 35)$. Or in Teak veneer housing $£ 23$
Dep. $£ 3 \& 9$ mthly payments $£ 2 \cdot 55$ (Total $£ 25 \cdot 95$ ). Send S.A.E. for leaflet.
HI-FI SPEAKER ENCLOSURES MODERN DESIGN Teak veneer finish. Acoustically lined. All sizes approx.
Teak veneer finish. Acou
Carr. 30p. per enclosure.

JE8 Size $16 \times 11 \times 9 \mathrm{in}$. Pressurised. SE8 For optimum performance Gives pleasing resuits with $£ 5.35$ | any sin. Hi-Fi speaker. | $\begin{array}{l}\text { speak } \\ \text { Porte }\end{array}$ |
| :--- | :--- |

SE10 For outstanding results SE12 For exclnt primene with 12 in
 Size $24 \times 15 \times 10 \mathrm{in}$. Ph'td. $\mathbf{L 6 . 7 4} \quad \begin{aligned} & \text { Hi-Fi speaker and Tweeter. } \mathbf{~} \mathbf{~} 7.87 \\ & \text { Size } 25 \times 16 \times 10 \frac{1}{2} \text { in. }\end{aligned}$


## R.S.C. BATTERY/MAINS CONVERSION UNITS

TYPE BM1. An all-dry battery eliminator. Size $5 \frac{1}{2} \times 4 \frac{2}{2} \times 2 \mathrm{in}$. approx. Completely replaces batteries supplying 1.5 v and 90 v ,

to battery radio where A.C. mains $200 / 250 \mathrm{v}$. $50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ is available. | COMPACN KIT |
| :--- |
| WITH DIAGRAM |
| $\mathbf{E} 3.25 \quad$ ASSEMBLED READY $\mathbf{E 3}$ |
| 15 |

## R.S.C. TA6 6 Watt HI-FI AMPLIFIER

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cart.

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| DECCA Compact 3 | 119.56 | 103.95 |  | 52.05 | 5.95 |
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| Ampilfier, Goodmans Stereo-max |  |  | TANDBERG 6021 X twin track | 188.00 | 58.00 |
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| Goldring G.800 Cartridge. Beauti- |  |  | HF/AM Radio, batt//malns, twin |  |  |
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| MARCONI 4452 |  | 57.95 | bases and covers |  |  |
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| PHILIPS 580/481/105 | 47.80 | ${ }^{57} 9.95$ | GARRARD SPC1 | 3.600 | 2.95 |
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|  |  |  | GARRARD SP25, SL55, SL65B and 3500 |  |  |
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| CEEPLETONE Stereo system. | 41.75 | 33.95 |  |  |  |
| ELETON STP 8-track Stereo |  |  | GOLDRING Pin | 8.60 | 7.00 |
| ULTRA 6405 | $\begin{aligned} & 54.75 \\ & 77.00 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 47.00 \\ & 64.95 \end{aligned}$ | GOLDRING Plinth 69 | $8 \cdot 60$ | 7.00 |
| TAPE RECORDERS AND TAPE |  |  | GOLDRING Covers for 69 P and 72P | $4 \cdot 48$ | 3.75 |
|  |  |  | r ṪDi25Ä | 8.52 | 6.95 |
| KAl 4000 D-track stereo deck ${ }^{\text {de... }}$ | 89.95 | 64.95 |  | 4.26 | 3.75 |
| AKAl CR80D 8 -track stereo tape |  |  | D 1 | 5.04 | 12.45 |
|  | 79.95 99.95 | 55.95 69.95 | SMETPRITh SYstem | 5.22 | 3.25 |

Coment

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Speakers....................
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This Capacitor-discharge Electronic Ignition system was recently described in Practical
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Price : Standard kit $\quad$.. $£ 7.25$ post free Trade De-luxe invited. " $\quad \mathbf{~ M} \cdot \mathbf{7 5}$ post ree State pos, or neg. earth when ordering.

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E. 24020 watt 240 volts soldering iron fitted with 1/4" iron coated bit. Spare bits $3 / 32^{\prime \prime}$, $1 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ and $3 / 16^{\prime \prime}$ available. Can also be supplied for 220 and 110 volts. Price $f 1.80$.
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## ANXTEXX your solderins applance speciaists.



CCN. 240 New model 15 watt 240 volts miniature soldering iron with ceramic shaft to ensure perfect insulation ( 4,000 v A.C.). Will solder live transistors in perfect safety: fitted with $3 / 32^{\prime \prime}$ iron coated bit. Spare bits $1 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ $3 / 16^{\prime \prime}$ and $1 / /^{\prime \prime}$ available. Can also be supplied for 220 volts. Price $£ 1.80$
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This kit contains a 15 watt 240 volts soldering iron fitted with a $3 / 16^{\prime \prime}$ bit, nickel plated spare bits of $5 / 32^{\prime \prime}$ and $3 / 32^{\prime \prime}$, a reel of solder, Heat Sink, 1 amp fuse and booklet "How to Solder"


## MES. 12

A battery operated 12 volts 25 watt soldering iron complete with $15^{\prime}$ lead, two crocodile clips for connection to car battery and a booklet "How to Solder" packed in a strong plastic wallet. Price $£ 1.95$.


## SK. 1

SOLDERING KIT
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Finish: Gold stove enamel with
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| ARP12 EB91 | 5pp | ${ }_{\text {PCCF84 }}$ | 5p | U191 | 20 p |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | PCF80 | 5 p | U251 | 1210 |
| EF85 | $12 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{p}$ | PCL82 | $12 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{P}$ | 6BW7 | 10p |
| EBFB0 | $12 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{P}$ | PCL83 | 121p | 6 U 4 | 10 p |
| EBF89 | 12, ${ }^{\text {P }}$ p | PCF82 | $12 \frac{1}{2}$ | 6 F 23 | 20p |
| ECC81 | 10p | PL36 | 20p | 20P1 | 20p |
| ECC82 | 12 ${ }_{1}{ }^{\text {p }}$ p | PL8 $\dagger$ | 171 ${ }^{\text {p }}$ p | 20 P 3 | 10p |
| ECL. 80 | $7 \frac{1}{2} p$ | PY81 | $7 \frac{1}{1}$ p | 20 D 1 | 10p |
| EF80 | $7 \frac{1}{2}$ | PY33 | 1712 | 30 P 4 | 20p |
| EF91 | 4p | PY82 | $7{ }^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathrm{p}$ | 30 P 12 | 20p |
| EY86 | 20p | PL82 | 7\% ${ }^{\frac{1}{2}}$ | 30 FL 1 | 20p |
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5 amp, changeover contacts, 9 p each, $£ 1$ doz. 15 am
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|  | 2 way | way | av | way | 6 way | 8 way | 9 way | way | ay |
| 1 pole | 40p | 40p | 40 p | 40p | 40] | 40p | 40p | 40p | 40 p |
| 2 poles | 40p | 40 p | 40 p | 40p | 40p | 40p | 40 p | 70 p | 70 p |
| 3 poles | 40p | 40 p | 40 p | 40 p | 70p | 70 p | 70 p | 95p | 959 |
| 4 poles | 40 p | 40 D | 40 p | 70 p | 70 p | 70p | 70 p | E1.20 | £1-20 |
| 5 poles | 40 p | 40p | 70p | 70 p | 95p | 95 p | 95p | 81.45 | 81.45 |
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$2^{\prime \prime}$
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## BATTERY CONDITION TESTER

Made by Mallory but suitable for all batteries made by Ever Ready and others, most of which are zinc carbon types but also mercury manganese-nicad-qiver oxide dummy load on the battery and the meter scale indicates the condition depending upon which section the pointer rests. The section reads "replace" "weak" or "good". The tester is complete in its case, size 3 "" $^{x} \times 6_{4}^{1 / \prime}$
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Where postage is not stated then order over 25 are post free. Below $£ 5$ add 20 p Semi-conductors add 5p post. Over \&l post free. S.A.E. with enquiries please. free. S.A.E. with enquiries please.

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Adjustable over range $50^{\circ}$ to $150^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$, Price 80


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$\begin{array}{lll}\text { Single pole } & \text { 25p each } & 10 \text { for } \mathbf{4 2 . 2 5} \\ \text { Treble pole } & 40 \mathrm{p} \text { each } & 10 \text { for } £ 3.06\end{array}$

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Three position switching to suit changes in the weather.
Switch up for full heater (2t Switch up for full heater ( $2 \frac{1}{2}$
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Wedge shaped extension speaker $7 \frac{1}{2} \times 6 \frac{1}{2} \times 4 \mathrm{in}$ (max.). Covered in walnut wood grain cloth with mottled Vynair front. Keyhole slot at back. Fitted with 3 ohm speaker unit. Only GI-25. P. \& P. 36p each

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GP. 91 Stereo Compatible $£ 1$-25. Acos GP67/2 will replace Collaro and Garrard Mono cartridges, ${ }^{\text {95P. T.I.C. Crystal }}$
High Gain, 75p. B.S.R. TCBH Jap. equivalent $61 \cdot 25$. P. \& P. 7p.

BIOSTHESOUTO
 E2.95CAXTON SPEAKRES P. \& P. 57p Makes all the difference to volume and quality. Contains 3 speakers in serjes-ex-TV with hi-fi flux magnet recon., tested for Mono or Stereo. Output 8 watts. Impedance 9 ohms. Available in black leathercloth. Size $23 \frac{1}{2}^{\prime \prime} \times 5 \frac{1}{1 "}^{\prime \prime} \times 5 \frac{1^{\prime \prime}}{}{ }^{\prime \prime}$. Keyhole slot for wall mounting. Twin connecting cable $12 y d s$., 35p min. Matching transformers if required for other output impedance 85 p post free.

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$11^{\prime \prime}$ wide $\times 8 \frac{1}{2}^{\prime \prime}$
$\times 4 \frac{1}{2}$ " deep with volume contro rexine and Mort rexine and
led
Vynair. E2-25 P \& P 25p.

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Padded ear cushions seal out room noise. Perfect coupling between reproducer and ears assure full response imped
ance 8 ohms. frequency range $30-15,000 \mathrm{~Hz} 6 \mathrm{ft}$. cord and standard stereo plug. Only \&2.57 $\frac{1}{2}$. P. \& P. 27p

Stereo Headphone Junction Box
Simple unit connects direct to amplifier and speakers to give attenuated headphone output has 2 position switch P. \& P. $12 \frac{1}{2}$ P.




AMPEX 7.5v. D.C. MOTOR. motor designed for use in the AMPEX model AG20 portable
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Stall load at $500 \mathrm{ma}$. Draws
60 ma on run. $600 \mathrm{rpm}+5 \%$ 50 ma on run. 600 rpm $+5 \%$
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SYNCHRONOUS MOTORS SMITHS, 250 v . $50 \mathrm{H}_{2}$. Available in the following R.P.M. 2-3-6-10-30-60. Price ${ }^{75} \mathrm{P}$ each. Carr. paid.
CROUZET. $220 / 380 \mathrm{v}$. $50 / 60 \mathrm{~Hz}^{250-300} \mathrm{rpm}$. M5p. Carr Paid. $\frac{3^{\prime \prime}}{\mathrm{P}^{\prime \prime}}$ \& ${ }^{\text {spindle, }}$ P. weight $\frac{3}{4} \mathrm{lb}$. Powerful. 88p each. ELECTR GEARED MOTORS
ELECTRO CONTROL (CHICAGO). Shaded
pole $240 \mathrm{v} .50 \mathrm{~Hz}, 200 \mathrm{rpm}$. $101 \mathrm{~b} . \mathrm{in} . £ 2 \cdot 50, \mathrm{P}$ \& P. 25 p . MYCALEX. Open frame, shaded pole motors, $240 v .50 \mathrm{~Hz} 7$ rpm. 28 lb . in. 80 rpm .12 ib . in.
$62 \cdot 25$ each. P . P . 25 p .
 $50 \mathrm{~Hz} 47 / 68$ watts. $50{ }^{965}$ rpm. Stoutiy
constructed. Size: $21^{\prime \prime}$ dia. $\times 3 t^{\prime \prime}$ constructed. Size: $2+y^{\prime \prime}$ dia $\times 3 \frac{1}{n}^{\prime \prime}$
long plus spindle, $x^{\prime \prime} \times \frac{1}{\prime \prime}^{\prime \prime}$ dia. Anti-
 TYPE 955.
P. \& P. 25p.
 "MALLORY" LONG LIFE BATTERIES. Type A. RM12 cel
$1.35 v .3,600$ ma/H. CAP. $250 / 300$ $1 \cdot 35 \mathrm{v}$. 3,600 ma/H. CAP, ${ }^{250 / 300}$
ma cont. current. Size: ${ }^{2 \prime} \times{ }^{10}$.
5 for $£ 1.00$ or $£ 2.00$ per doz. Carr. 5 for $£ 1-00$ or $£ 2 \cdot 00$ per doz. Carr. cells. Nom. volts. I .35 each 10.5 v
Overall, $350 \mathrm{ma} / \mathrm{H}$ CAP. $20 / 25 \mathrm{ma}$ Overall, $350 \mathrm{ma} / \mathrm{H}$ CAP. $20 / 25 \mathrm{ma}$
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battery chargers, etc.).
Perspex battery chargers, etc. Perspex
front. Size: $1 \frac{1}{3} \times 1 \frac{7}{\prime \prime}^{\prime \prime}$. Any 2 for EI-10. Carr. Paid.
ERNESTTURNER $800 \mu$ METER $160 \Omega$ movement, $2^{\prime \prime}$ case eliptic. plastic front, Green-Red-Green
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## FIIETipDITCH SALES

PROGRAMME TIMER BY HONEYWELL
 A bank of 15 micro-switches are
each independently operated by each independently operated by
15 pairs of cams which in turn are individually adjustable to give indilidually
switching
seconds with infinitely variable combinations. A mains synchronous motor drive the cam shaft at
Orisinally cost $\mathrm{E} 15 \cdot 00$ plus. Many applications such as lighting effects, etc. New in original makers cartons. First class value at $\mathbf{8 5}$. 7 plus 25 p P. \& $P$ PRECISION FAN CO (SMITHS INDUS-
TRIES) DOUBLE ENTRY CENTRIFUGAL FAN/BLOWER. This is a beautifully balanced particularly quiet running unit giving approx. 90 cubic fu./min. The motor is a 2 pole shaded pole Mycalex. drawing only Sizes: case dia. $3 \cdot 1$ ins., width (case only) $3 \cdot 125$ ins. Width overall (inc.) 5.25 ins. Aper-
ture $3 \cdot 125$ ins. 1.85 ins. Offered well below makers price at 2295, P. \& P. 25p.
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S.T.C. Midget Sealed Relay type 4109EC. 12v. ma $170 \Omega$, single H.D. makc. 53p each.
"B. \& R"' 3 c/o. 10 amp contacts (silver) operates on 2 volts D.C. Dr
"ENGLE \& GIBBS" 240v. A.C. Plug-in relay 3 c: 0
perspex enclosed $\mathbf{I} \cdot 00$
NEW "FI.R.E." PLUG - IN RELAY.- $115 v$. Coil $50 / 60$ c.p.5.
3 heavy duty silver change-over contacts. Very robust. 63p. NEW "ISKRA" 240v. A.C. RELAY. 3 X
contacts. 63 p.
SIEMENS HIGH SPEED RELAY. Type 89L, $1,700 \Omega$
 BUSINESS HOURS
9a.m.-6p.m. MON. TO SAT. (PWI)




## 28watts, r.m.s. 40 Hz to $40 \mathrm{kHz} \pm 3 \mathrm{~dB}$



PRICES SYSTEM I
Viscount III RIOI amplifier $£ 22 \cdot 00+90$ p p\&p $2 \times$ Duo Type 11 speakers, $£ 14 \cdot 00+£ 2$ p\&p Garrard SP25 Mk. III with MAG.
cartridge plinth and cover $£ 23 \cdot 00+£ 1 \cdot 50$
Total $\quad £ 59.00$
Available complete for only $\mathbf{£ 5 2} \cdot \mathbf{0 0}+£ 3 \cdot 50$
p\&p
SYSTEM 2
Viscount R101 amplifier $\quad £ 22 \cdot 00+90 \mathrm{p}$ p\&p $2 \times$ Duo Type III speakers $£ 32 \cdot 00+£ 3 \mathrm{p} \& \mathrm{p}$ Garrard SP25 Mk. III with MAG.
cartridge, plinth and cover $£ 23 \cdot 00+£ 1 \cdot 50$
Total $\quad £ 77.00$
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SYSTEM 3
Viscount III Amplifier R100 f17.00+90p p\&p
$2 \times$ Duo Type II speakers, pair $£ 14 \cdot 00+£ 2$ p\&p
Garrard SP25 Mk. III with CER. diamond
cartridge, plinth and cover $£ 21 \cdot 00+£ 1 \cdot 50$
Total $£ 52.00$
Available complete for onty $\mathbf{£ 4 9} \cdot \mathbf{0 0}+£ 3 \cdot 50$
p\&p

SPEAKERS Duo Type II
Size approx $17^{\prime \prime} \times 10 \frac{3^{\prime \prime}}{4} \times 6 \frac{3^{\prime \prime}}{4}$. Drive unit $13^{\prime \prime} \times 8^{\prime \prime}$ with parasitic tweeter. Max. power 10 watts. 3 ohms. Simulated Teak cabinet. £ 14 pair + ¢ 2 p\&p.
Duo Type III Size approx $23 \frac{1^{\prime \prime}}{2} \times 11 \frac{1}{2}^{\prime \prime} \times 9 \frac{1^{\prime \prime}}{}{ }^{\prime \prime}$. Drive unit $13 \frac{1^{\prime \prime}}{} \times 8 \frac{1^{\prime \prime}}{4}$ with H.F. speaker. Max. power 20 watts at 3 ohms. Freq. range 20 Hz to 20 kHz . Teak veneer cabinet. $£ \mathbf{3 2}$ pair $+£ 3 \mathrm{p}$ \& p .

SPECIFICATION RIOI
14 watts per channel into 3 to 4 ohms. Total distortion @10W@ $1 \mathrm{kHz} 0.1 \%$ P.U.I (for ceramic cartridges). 150 mV into 3 Meg. P.U. 2 (for magnetic cartridges) $4 \mathrm{mV} @ 1 \mathrm{kHz}$ into 47 K . equalised within $\pm 1 \mathrm{~dB}$ R.I.A.A. Radio 150 mV into 220K. (Sensitivities given at full power). Tape out facilities; headphone socket, power out 250 mW per channel. Tone controls and filter characteristics. Bass: +12 dB to $-17 \mathrm{~dB} @ 60 \mathrm{~Hz}$. Bass filter: 6dB per octave cut. Treble control: treble +12 dB to $-12 \mathrm{~dB} @ 15 \mathrm{kHz}$. Treble filter: 12 dB per octave. Signal to noise rotio: (all controls at max) R101-P.U.I and radio-65dB. P.U.2. -58 dB . RI00 same as R101 but P.U. 2 (for crystal cartridges) 450 mV into 3 Meg. Cross talk better than -35 dB on all inputs. Overload characteristics better than 26 dB on all inputs. Size approx $13 \frac{3}{4}{ }^{\prime \prime} \times 9^{\prime \prime} \times 3 \frac{34^{\prime \prime}}{}$.

## SOUND 50

50 WATT AMPLIFIER \& SPEAKER SYSTEM


The Sound Fifty valve amplifier and speakers are sturdily constructed with smart housings and thoroughly tested electronics. They are designed to last-to withstand the knocks and bumps of life on the road. Built for the small and medium sized gig, they are easy to handle and quick to set up and can be relied upon to come over with all the quality and power you need.
Output Power: 45 watts R.M.S. (Sine wave drive). Frequency response: -3 dB points 30 Hz at 18 KHz . Total distortion: less than $2 \%$ at rated utput. Signai to noise ratio: better than 60 dB
peaker Impedance: 3,8 or 15 ohms. Bass Control Range: $\pm 13 \mathrm{~dB}$ at 60 Hz . Treble Control Range: $\pm 12 \mathrm{~dB}$ at 10 KHz . Inputs: 4 inputs at m into 470 K . Each pair of inputs controlled by separate volume ontrol. 2 inputs at $200 \mathrm{~m} V$ into 470 K
To protect the output valves, the incorporated fail safe circuit will enable the amplifier to be used at half power.
SPEAKERS! Size $20^{\prime \prime} \times 20^{\prime \prime} \times 10^{\prime \prime}$ incorporating $12^{\prime \prime}$ heavy duty 25 watt high flux, quality loudspeaker with cast frame. Cabinets attractively finished in two tone colour scheme-Black and grey.

## COMPLETE SYSTEM <br> Sound 50 amp and 2 speakers <br> £50 <br> Plus $£ 6$ <br> P. \& $\quad \stackrel{\&}{8}$ P.

or available separately.
Amplifier $\mathbf{£ 2 8 . 5 0}$ plus $£ 1.50$ P. \& P. Speakers $£ 12.50$ each plus $£ 2.25$ P. \& P.

## RELIANT mk.IV



Provides a high standard of sound reproduction, with full mixing facilities. It's versatility makes it suitable for: Discotheque, P.A., Home Entertainment Applications, etc.

## $\star$ Five Electronically Mixed Inputs

$\star$ Three Individual Mixing Controls
$\star$ Separate base and treble controls common to all five inputs
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$\star$ Solid State Circuitry $\star$ Attractive Styling

## EQ, 50 plus P. \& P. 60p.

INPUTS:-i. Cfystal Mic or Gultar 9 mV . 2. Moving coll Mic or Guitar 8 mV . inputs $3,4 \& 5$ are suitable for a wide range of medium output equipment (Gram. Tuner, Monitor, Organ, etc.). All 250 mV sensitivity.
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WMA MOISE
SIGNAL/NOIS: Bellar
SUPPLY:-220-250 AC Mains. SIZE:-121" $\times 6^{\prime \prime} \times 3 \frac{1}{\prime \prime}^{\prime \prime}$

THE ELEGANT SEVEN Mk. III ( 350 m W Output)


7 transistor fully-tunable M.W.-L.W. superhet portable. Set of parts. Complete with all components, including ready etched and drilled printed circuit board-back printed for foolproof priated circa
MAINS POWER PACK KIT: 75p extra
Price $\mathbf{£ 5 . 2 5}$ plus 50p. P. \& P.
Circuit 13p FREE WITH PARTS.
THE DORSET (600mw Output)


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Price $\mathbf{£ 5 . 2 5}$ plus 50 p $P$. \& $P$. Circuit 13p FREE WITH PARTS

CONTINENTAL 4 TRACK, 3 SPEED TAPE DECK
with high impedance heads R.C. 74 tape deck. Three speeds-71, $3 \frac{3}{4}$ and 17 ips.
 4-track record/playback head. Plus 4-track erase head. Positive pressure pad system. Takes any tape spool up to and including 7". The R.C. 74 is driven by a powerful $200 / 250 \mathrm{~V} 50$-cycle A.C. motor. A heavy, accurately balanced, flywheel brings wow and flutter levels down to approx. $0.3 \%$ total at $3 \frac{3}{4}$ and $7 \frac{1}{2}$ ips. Fast rewind in both directions.
Controls couldn't be simpler! Just five push buttons that interlock to cut out accidental tape damage. Efficient servo-action type braking. Easy drop-in tape loading.
The R.C. 74 comes with an attractive moulded deck cover, which has positions for tone and volume controls. The unit is built into a rigid die-cast frame, and overall size of the whole unit is $12 \frac{7}{6} \times 11 \frac{7}{8} \times 6$ inches. Every single deck fully tested before dispatch. Spools not supplied. Price complete £15-00. Plus 75p P. \& P.

## TOURIST CAR RADIO

## ALL TRANSISTOR

Beautifully designed to blend with the interiors of all cars. Permeability tuning and long wave loading coils ensure excellent tracking, sensitivity and selectivity on both wave bands. R.F. sensitivity at 1 MHz is better than 8 micro volts. Power output into 3 ohm speaker is 3 watts. Pre-aligned 1.F. module and tuner together with comprehensive instructions guarantees success first time, 12 volts negative or positive earth. Size 7 in $\times 2$ in $\times 4 \frac{1}{2}$ in deep.

## SET OF PARTS <br> £6.30

plus P. \& P. 50p. Circult dlagram 13p. Free with parts xtra plus 255. o. \& p. Postage free when ordered with parts.

See previous page
for address



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## DX JUBILEE

ACCORDING to reliable eye (or ear?)-witnesses, such as our venerable columnist Henry and the antedeluvian researchers Colin Riches and Arthur Dow, founders of Going Back (official organ of the P.W. Darby and Joan Club), one of the major impacts at the dawn of broadcasting was not so much the material transmitted as the fascination of hearing something-anything-from a point far removed from the listener's ear.

Although they would have been horrified at the thought, these ancient radio listeners were, in fact, the first DX'ers. it is, of course, a far cry from pulling in 2LO with an adroit twiddle of the catswhisker in 1922 to phasing in an exotic Pacific station with the crystal filter in 1972. Nevertheless the motivation and reactions are similar.
Since the pioneer London broadcasting station 2LO officially opened in November 1922, this year we can celebrate (or mourn, according to taste) 50 years of broadcasting. More apposite to P.W. readers, we can hang out the bunting for 50 years of DXing. In that time, of course, many changes have taken place, not only in equipment but in the art and style of DX listening.
In the early stages of the hobby, the main criterion was actual distance-first the local stations, then Europe, then North America (all on medium waves), followed by the development of the short wave bands which permitted reception of the USA during daylight hours and extended the listening ear to all parts of the world. But then, as useable frequencies became higher, the old aim of maximum distance took a back seat, for on v.h.f., and later on u.h.f., a DX catch could be judged in hundreds instead of thousands of miles. One of the latest activities is DX television.
The style of transmissions has changed dramatically over the years; the early short wave programmes were of the pure entertainment type and they could be picked up on relatively simple recelvers on bands that were blissfully uncluttered; amateurs had a wonderful time operating on low power-and getting through. The 30 's, however, saw a change of direction. The Spanish Civil War brought with it jamming for the first time, together with the first invasion of amateur territory by propaganda broadcasting. The process has continued to the present day with its multitude of high powered political broadcasters, many disregarding international agreements, and the further erosion of amateur bands and consequent congestion.

Despite all these changes (many of them obviously for the worst), the DX bug still exerts its fascination.
We hope that the wall chart contained in this issue will be helpful to some of the newer recruits to the ranks of long distance listeners.
W. N. STEVENS-Editor.

## NEWS AND COMMENT

Leader
News . . . News . . . News . . . 976
New Books

Electronotes by S. Ginsberg
999

MW Column by Charles Molloy 1010
On the Short Waves
by Malcolm Connah and
David Gibson, G3JDG

## Letters

CQ! CQ! CQ! CQ! CQ!

## CONSTRUCTIONAL

Car Radio Signal Booster by Caleb R. Bradley
A Darkroom Thermometer by R. A. Bottomley
Take 20, No. 34, Magic Candle by Julian Anderson
Quality Hi-Fi System, Part 2 by C. R. Bradley
The P.W. Cube Radio 7 Transistor Superhet by R. F, Graham

Comprehensive Multi-Band Receiver (Further Notes) by F. G. Rayer, G3OGR

## OTHER FEATURES

DX Reception of VHF "Local"
Radio by Keith Pitt

Transistor Circuitry for Beginners, Part 6 by H. W. Hellyer and Michael Hollier
Going Back by Colin Riches and Arthur Dow
IC of the Month, Toshiba TH9013P 20W Audio Amplifier by L. A. J. Ireland

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## NEWS... NEWS...

## NEWS...

## The BRC Stereo Service

The BBC is planning to expand its stereo service considerably during the next few years. The extension beyond the present Radio 3 service will take place in three phases.
(1.) The installation of stereo origination facilities for Radio 2 (with Radio 1) and Radio 4. This has called for a major re-equipment programme involving modifications to the continuity suites and central control equipment in London as well as a considerable increase throughout the United Kingdom in the number of tape machines, gramophone desks, studios and outside broadcast units equipped for stereo. This phase is already in progress, and it is expected that it will be possible to originate a major proportion of stereo programmes on Radio 2 by the end of 1972, and also to make possible the transmission of some stereo programmes on Radio 4. Further increases in stereo capability will continue during the succeeding years.
(2.) The extension of Radio 2 and Radio 4 stereo to those transmitters already radiating Radio 3 in stereo. For this a new system of s.h.f. radio links is planned, using pulse code modulation (PCM) (see below). It is expected that the three-network service, which involves the construction of several new radio link sites on the main route, will be available in the London area and the Midlands by the end of 1972 and in the North of England during 1973. Rowridge, serving central southern England, will be included in this phase and a full stereo service from Belmont, serving Lincolnshire, will follow the extension to the North of England.
(3.) The extension of the three network stereo service northwards to Central Scotland and westwards to the Bristol Channel area. The Post Office Corporation and the BBC are working towards this phase which it is expected will start in 1974. The transmitters expected to be included' are Kirk o'Shotts (Lanarkshire), Pontop Pike (Durham), Sandale (Cumberland), and Wenvoe (Glamorgan). It is hoped also to include North Hessary Tor (Devonshire) in this phase, as well as certain of the relay stations associated with the main transmitters mentioned.

The PCM system to be used on the s.h.f. radio links has been developed by the BBC. It will carry 10 audio circuits. Each stereo programme will use two circuits, for the $A$ and $B$ channels, and the stereo coding will be carried out at each main transmitting station. The PCM system will provide improved quality in respect of both audio bandwidth and signal to noise ratio, from which mono as well as stereo listeners will benefit. It thus forms part of the BBC's plan to improve still further the quality of its v.h.f. transmissions throughout the country.

## Golden Silence



976

Picture shows Gloria Connell, actress daughter of the chairman of the Noise Abatement Society enjoying peace and quiet against a background of noise which would be intolerable without the Ear Defenders which reduce the noise of the road drills to a mere whisper. The Survey Meter's red lamp lights up when noise reaches danger levels. Ideal for "pop" fans who can't stand classical music and "classics" fans who can't stand pop music, the meter costs $£ 10$ and the Ear Defenders cost $£ 5$ from local stores or carriage paid from Noise Abatement Society, 6 Old Bond Street, London W.1.


The Accelerator Spinwheel Drive is a cord drive unit intended for modern radio receivers with extra-long scales. It incorporates a $2^{1}{ }_{4}$-inch-diameter ( 57 mm ) zincalloy flywheel driven through nylon-to-brass step-up gears at more than twice the speed of the drive-shaft. The complete unit weighs only $60 z(170 \mathrm{~g})$ but provides an inertial effect equivalent to a much larger flywheel, permitting rapid traverse of the scale. Jackson Brothers (London) Ltd., Croydon CR9 4DG, England.

## Adcola

## Soldering Station

To complement the Invader range of soldering irons, Adcola Products Ltd has introduced the "Invader Soldering Station." It consists of a cast aluminium base, finished in hammered silver grey, containing an integral wiping sponge to facilitate the removal of solder from the tip of an instrument.


## NEWS... <br> NEWS... <br> NEWS...

## EMI Speaker Kils


F.MI has entered the loudspeaker enclosure market with a range of high quality enclosures in kit form. Available in polished wood veneers, the enclosures have been introduced by EMI Sound Products Limited, of Hayes, Middlesex, for use with its range of matched loudspeaker systems.

The enclosures are priced from $£ 5 \cdot 80$, for a $12 \mathrm{in} . \times 6 \mathrm{in}$. x 8 in . bookshelf model, to $£ 29 \cdot 50$ for a large floor-standing enclosure measuring 33in. x 20in. x 15in. They have been designed to incorporate each of the eight different EMI loudspeaker systems which cover the 6 to 35 watts r.m.s. output range.

## Coax Relay

This is the Series 951 Co-axial Relay from Magnetic Devices for aerial switching at frequencies in the order of 450 megacycles.

For further information please contact Magnetic Devices Limited, Newmarket, Suffolk. Telephone Newmarket 3451.


## BBC Scholarship

Mr I. G. Phillipps graduated with an upper second class honours degree in the Electrical Sciences Tripos at the University of Cambridge in 1971, and has been awarded a three-year BBC Research Scholarship to undertake research in the Department of Engineering at the University of Cambridge, under the supervision of Professor P. S. Brandon, MA. The subject of Mr Phillipps' research will be "ways of reducing the channel capacity required by a television signal or improving the quality of a television image within a given channel capacity, by the use of digital electronic techniques."

## Radio Amateur Invalid \& Bedfast Club

The address to which all correspondence concerning the Radio Amateur Invalid \& Bedfast Club should now be sent is: Mrs. Frances Woolley, G3LWY, Woodsclose, Penselwood, Wincanton, Somerset.

Bedfast Club membership is almost at the 400 mark and covers 13 countries. Any handicapped licensed amateur or short-wave listener, wherever he or she may live, who does not already belong to the Club is invited to apply to the Hon. Secretary at the address above for full details of membership, enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope.

Readers will be interested to know that Mr. Cecil Lewis, of Bude, received three letters telling him of the R.A.I.B.C. following his appeal for help which we printed in Practical Wireless last year.

## Criterion Mic. X



We recently had the opportunity to try the Lasky's Criterion Mk X speakers. They are bookshelf types employing the sealed infinite baffle enclosure principle and they are well worthy of consideration by the budget-conscious $\mathrm{Hi}-\mathrm{Fi}$ enthusiast. An 8in. woofer, 5 in . mid-range and $2_{2}{ }_{2} \mathrm{in}$. tweeter are used and the cabinets are oiled walnut with black woven speaker grilles. Frequency response is $40 \mathrm{~Hz}-20 \mathrm{kHz}$ and maximum power handling capacity is 20 W . The impedance is $8 \Omega$. A useful feature of these speakers is that two types of speaker lead connection are supplied-phono or screw terminals. Cabinet size is $18{ }_{3} \times 97_{8} \times 97_{8}$ in. and the very reasonable price is $£ 25$ the pair. Postage is 50 p and the speakers are available singly for $£ 13 \cdot 50$. Lasky's Radio Limited, 3•15 Cavell Street, Tower Hamlets, London, E.1. Tel. 01-790-4821.

## The Practical Wireless CQ! Column

Items in the CQ! Column are carried free of charge as a service to readers. We only ask that those making use of the service answer all correspondence resulting and reimburse postage and all reasonable expenses. We cannot guarantee inclusion and requests for inclusion will not be acknowledged and will be dealt with in strict rotation. It would also help if readers could write out their "CQ!" in the style used in P.W. as this would help to speed things up.
Material for inclusion should be sent to Practical Wireless Editorial, Fleetway House, Farringdon Street, London, EC4A 4AD.

the car can also contribute interference and in the author's experience capacitor-discharge transistor ignition systems can be especially troublesome.

## INTERFERENCE REDUCTION

The car aerial should be mounted as far from the engine as possible. With front-engined vehicles this means on a rear wing, or at least on the roof. If the existing aerial cable needs to be extended, a 10 ft . coaxial cable already fitted with appropriate plug and socket can be purchased (Norman type SL11).

The cable screen must make a good electrical connection to the car body at the aerial end. Paint must be scraped off to permit this and the underside of the aerial mounting should be sealed against road filth as rust can ruin the connection.

All modern cars are fitted by law with ignition suppression in the form of resistance in the high voltage paths, possibly in the form of spark plug connectors incorporating resistors, or special resistive
h.t. cable. Add-on suppressor resistors, typically $50 \mathrm{k} \Omega$, are sold for older cars or addition to others, and can be screwed into the middle of the h.t. lead from coil to distributor (e.g. Belling-Lee Sparkmaster L.1274/S). In conjunction with stray capacitance, such resistors form a top-cut filter which bypasses the r.f. component of the fast-rising spark voltage but has negligible effect on the strength of the spark.

The metalwork of the engine compartment helps screen ignition interference from the aerial, but poor bonding between the body, the bonnet and the engine block can reduce its effectiveness. The engine compartments of fibreglass bodied cars have to be lined with metal foil to obtain this screening. For ultimate interference suppression it is possible to replace all the h.t. wiring with coaxial cable. Use solid-dielectric TV co-ax as low-loss cellular dielectric type will not withstand the ignition voltage (perhaps 30 kV peak), and earth all the screens to the coil mounting bracket. Such measures though are hardly necessary for domestic reception.

Another type of interference is a whine which also changes with engine speed and is caused by the generator. This is cured by connecting a standard car suppressor capacitor (still called condenser in the motor trade) between chassis and the brush (larger) terminal. Switches, both manual and automatic such as the brake pressure switch, and the motors of the wipers and heater can similarly be silenced by capacitors across their terminals. Car suppressor capacitors are usually about $0.5 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ and are built much more ruggedly than corresponding electronics components.

Other circuits, such as the lights, should not cause

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interference unless there is an intermittent connection somewhere. Indicator flashers normally contain their own suppressor capacitors.

## HEAD AMPLIFIER

The circuit of the unit is shown in Fig. 1 (negative earth cars) and Fig. 2 (positive earth cars). The difference lies only in the way the h.t. supply is derived, and the voltage readings with respect to chassis are different of course.

Two silicon planar transistors are used with d.c. feedback to stabilise the circuit against wide changes of temperature and supply voltage. Commonemitter stage Trl operates at low collector current $(100 \mu \mathrm{~A})$ and provides the voltage gain of the circuit. Tuned circuits and chokes could have been used to give more amplification and less noise but in practice a small amount of untuned amplification is quite adequate and avoids overloading the aerial circuit of the car radio. Emitter resistor R2 gives Tr1 a high input impedance to minimise loading of the aerial. The amplified signal across R1 is direct-coupled to emitter follower Tr2 which provides no voltage amplification but acts as an impedance converter, giving a low impedance output to the aerial cable. Bias for Tr 1 base is taken from the divider R4/R5 in $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ emitter to give negative feedback; R3 has a high value to preserve the high input impedance.


Fig. 1: Circuit suitable for negative chassis cars. All resistors are $\frac{1}{8} W, 5 \%$ and the capacitors should be at least 20 V working.

The output isolating capacitor C2 is not essential since the radio will probably have an aerial isolating capacitor, but it does protect $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ against shorts in the cable or plug. It may seem curious that the h.t. supply is decoupled by both a large value electrolytic capacitor C4 and a small value ceramic C3. This is because the electrolytic may not be as effective at r.f. due to its own stray inductance; C 3 ensures effective decoupling at r.f.

## CONSTRUCTION

While conventional wiring on, say, a piece of Veroboard can be employed, the method used by the author is simplicity itself. The components are simply wired together and encapsulated in candle wax inside a 35 mm film cassette tin which serves as a screen. The arrangement is shown in Fig. 3. If you have a choice of cans use an Ilford tin as it has


Fig. 2: The modified circuit designed for use with cars having a positive chassis.
slightly more room than the Kodak one. The tin cap is held under the aerial mounting nut (with insulating washer between) so it makes good contact with the car chassis. The body of the tin is then screwed onto the cap from underneath. The aerial cable and power wire leave through holes in the base of the tin. The input end of Cl is anchored under the aerial nut with sufficient lead to allow the tin to be screwed through about $3_{4}$ turn, all that is required. The chassis connection to the circuit is by a short length of wire that can conveniently be trapped between the body and the cap threads. Note that if this connection is not made the circuit will still amplify, due to the chassis return via the aerial cable screen, but interference will be at a high level.
There is no need to switch the amplifier with the radio since the drain on the battery is negligible; the power lead can therefore be connected to the same point from which the radio gets its supply, often the ignition or light switch. Plug the aerial cable into the radio and unscrew fully the aerial trimmer if the radio has one. Since there is now plenty of signal, this can be done to minimise the loading on the first tuned circuit to improve selectivity.

## PERFORMANCE

The design of the amplifier was prompted by the author's difficulty in receiving news bulletins while driving through London, where tall steel-framed buildings prove effective Faraday screens. and in receiving British broadcasts on the continent. While the amplifier cannot cure completely non-existent signals or interference from other vehicles, the improvement is remarkable; it is now just possible to hear uninterrupted Radio 1 while driving under the Holborn Viaduct outside the PW offices (should one ever feel this to be necessary!).


THE conventional mercury or spirit filled thermometer is a thoroughly reliable instrument but, especially from the photographic worker's point of view, it is less than ideal on two counts. In the first instance the scale can be difficult to read in daylight let alone in the subdued light of the darkroom. Again, even those which incorporate a magnifying lens have to be viewed from a fairly critical angle and this can be exasperating. Secondly, the slow response time of the conventional thermometer can be an inconvenience. It was with these two points in mind that it was decided to build a thermometer incorporating a thermistor. The thermistor has an almost immediate response time and by use of the appropriate circuitry its measurement of temperature can be presented on the scale of a panel meter which is very much more easily read.

## Principle of operation

The thermistor is a resistor with a very pronounced negative temperature co-efficient. In other words its resistance decreases with increasing temperature. By measuring the value of its resistance, one can arrive at the temperature of the medium in which the thermistor is immersed. One might, as with an ordinary resistor, apply a known voltage and measure the resultant current which flows ... the principle of the simple ohmmeter. A more precise way to measure resistance, however, is to incorporate the unknown in one arm of a Wheatstone bridge and this is the principle which has been adopted in the instrument to be described. By a suitable choice of component values an expanded scale has been achieved and this scale, as far as can be determined, is linear. The scale can be read to an accuracy of $\pm 0.1^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and, with $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ at mid scale and plus and minus $6^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ spread over the rest of the scale, it should meet most of the darkroom workers' needs.


## Circuit description

A 9V battery (type PP6) powers the instrument. This is preferable to a mains unit since the instrument is going to be handled in proximity to a water supply. This voltage is reduced by way of two zener diodes, ZD1, ZD2, to approximately $3 \cdot 3 \mathrm{~V}$. There are two reasons for this. By adopting a relatively low voltage to energise the bridge, self-heating effects


Fig. 1 : The circuit of the thermometer.
of the thermistor are minimised. Additionally, the cascaded zener diodes stabilise the bridge voltage effectively so that there is no variation of the instrument's indications over the useful life of the battery. The bridge itself is formed by the components TH1, R1, R3, R4 and VR1, and it is in balance at approximately $14^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ as indicated by zero deflection of the meter at this temperature. As the temperature rises, so the resistance of the thermistor falls and the pointer of the meter moves up scale accordingly. At this point it might be as well to describe the function of R2. It is only brought into circuit when the probe is disconnected. Were it not for its presence, an excessive current would pass through the meter under this condition. However, it also serves the dual purpose of reference standard whose resistance approximately equals the resistance of the thermistor at $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. If all is well, the pointer of the meter will always take up the same position on the scale when the probe is disconnected. A note can be kept of this reading or a "calibration" mark can be inscribed on the scale. The switch SW1 has three positions. In position " 1 " the instrument is off. In position " 2 " the meter, in conjunction with R7, is converted to a voltmeter so that one can have an indication of the state of the battery. In position " 3 " the meter is connected across the detector points of the bridge for temperature measurement.

## * components list



An internal view showing the Veroboard mounted on the meter terminals.

## Construction

The circuit is so simple that there is no need to elaborate upon its construction. There is absolutely nothing critical about its layout and tag strip, tag board or Veroboard (as in the prototype) can be employed. If a Veroboard layout is adopted there should scarcely be "any need to stress that the copper strip should be cleared away around the meter terminals. All the components, with the exception of the switch and the jack, are mounted on the Veroboard panel which is supported by the meter terminals. The meter, switch and jack are mounted on a small aluminium panel and this panel is mounted in a small plywood box covered with leatherette. The thermistor itself is mounted into a suitable housing with the aid of Araldite. In the


The thermistor can be mounted into a test probe or a ballooint pen case.
case of the prototype, this housing took the form of a redundant test-meter probe, turned to a smaller diameter at one end. The case of a spent ballpoint pen suggests itself as another suitable container and in this instance the thermistor tip would be protected, when not in use, by the cap of the pen.

There is nothing difficult about calibration but it should be borne in mind that the final accuracy of the instrument depends both on the care with which this is done and upon the accuracy of the thermometer which is used as standard. It is also worth noting that hot and cold water, like most dissimilar liquids, do not mix immediately. It is for this reason that it is recommended that a fairly large basin be used when calibrating and that the water be stirred thorougly before making a reading. First the water bath should be adjusted to $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ exactly and, when this is stabilised, VR1 should be adjusted so that the meter indicates exactly $50 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ or mid scale. Once again adjust the temperature of the water bath, this time to $15^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and when this is stable note the reading on the meter. Increase the temperature of the water bath to $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and, once again, note the reading. When plotted on a graph these three points will be found to lie on a straight line and the intermediate points on the scale can be determined from this graph. In the case of the prototype an increase of $1^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ was represented by an increase of $8 \mu \mathrm{~A}$, which is four divisions on the meter scale. Thus it can be seen that it is not difficult to read to $0.1^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

One final note. If the water is not thoroughly mixed during the calibration procedure, the pointer of the meter will be seen to oscillate. This is because the thermistor is so sensitive and has such a fast response time that it indicates the variation in temperature of the water bath due to convection currents.

The instrument is so sensitive that it can even determine the slight temperature gradient between the bottom and top of a 35 mm developing tank.

#  

THE extension of the BBC local radio network to 20 stations has made available an additional service to about $74 \%$ of the population of England. Inevitably, in addition to many areas with no official coverage from any of the locals, there are other areas with signals available from a number of transmitters. The promised new IBA network of 60 commercial stations will add to the choice of programmes in many areas.

The BBC local radio stations are, at present, on v.h.f. mainly in the band $94 \cdot 6$ to $97 \cdot 0 \mathrm{MHz}$. The main BBC networks, Radios 2, 3 and 4, transmit almost exclusively between $88 \cdot 1$ and $94 \cdot 5 \mathrm{MHz}$.

The powers used for the local radio transmitters range from 9 W for the Rotherham relay to 16.5 kW for Radio London. The complete list of stations is given in Table 1. All except Blackburn, Derby and Manchester, use horizontal polarisation. These three use slant polarisation. Very little loss of quality will be observed, except in the weakest signal strength areas, if horizontal aerials are used to receive slant polarisation.

## COVERAGE

The coverage of a v.h.f. station in Band 2 is controlled by a number of factors. Like the other v.h.f. bands its signals behave rather like light waves and are obstructed by objects such as hills where the signal strength on the side away from the transmitter is much reduced. However, unlike Band 3 and u.h.f. which are used for televison, a significant amount of signal is diffracted over a hill or the horizon. This then gives considerably greater coverage than might be expected from simple predictions.

One of the most important factors in determining signal strength at any point is the distance from the transmitter, since the field strength is inversely proportional to the square of the distance. Transmitter power, however, has less effect than might be expected, as the signal is proportional to the square root of the power. The height of both aerials is also of prime importance since these will determine whether or not the receiver is within the radio horizon. Signal strength diminishes quite rapidly beyond it because only diffracted waves bend over it. To a close approximation the distance of the horizon in miles is given by $1 \cdot 3$ times the square root of the height in feet. To approximate still further, the sum of the distances for the receiving and trancmitting aerials gives the radio line of sight between them, assuming there are no major obstacles in the way.

To determine whether worthwhile results may be obtained from any given station, the following actions are necessary. First, the approximate receiving and transmitting aerial heights should be found. Secondly, using an Ordnance Survey map, measure their distance apart and determine whether any large hills get in the way. Thirdly, determine the transmitter
power. In practice, a low power station, under half a kilowatt will not be effective for more than 25-30 miles, except under very favourable conditions. Medium power, up to $10-20 \mathrm{~kW}$, will often give reasonable results up to $40-50$ miles. A high power station may often be receivable regularly at distances of up to 100 miles.

As a general rule, for long distance reception, the higher the receiving aerial above sea level, the greater the chance of good reception. The author lives in North London at about 350 ft . above sea level and regularly has reliable reception from both Rowridge and Tacolneston at about 80-90 miles. Of the "local" stations, both London and Medway, which

TABLE 1 BBC LOCAL RADIO STATIONS
A

All transmitters except those marked * have directional aerials. Stations marked $S$ have slant polarisation.
are transmitted from Wrotham, are received well. (It should be noted that quoted powers are usually the maximum, but that the power radiated may be very low in some directions to avoid interference with other stations or to reduce wastage where coverage is not required.) For this reason, Medway is relatively weak, despite being within line of sight, because its power in a NW direction is very low, while London is beamed strongly in that direction.

Consistent signals are also obtained from Solent at about 85 miles, while Oxford with the same power and half the distance, is very weak. This is because nearby hills obstruct the latter but the former is quite clear for nearly 40 miles.

## AERIALS

Most BBC local radio stations radiate horizontally polarised signals. This means that a single dipole


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has some directional properties and thus does not receive equally well from all directions. The maximum signal strength is obtained with the aerial at right angles to a line joining the transmitter and the receiver. An improvement in directivity and gain can be obtained by the addition of a reflector and, perhaps, one or more directors.

Figure 1 shows the dimensions of a simple Band 2 aerial. No attempt has been made to allow for mismatch at the dipole caused by the addition of two directors and a reflector. If need be, the dipole can be folded when the input impedance will then afford a reasonable match to $72 \Omega$ coaxial feeder. If the object of the exercise is to obtain as many stations as possible, then, while the additional gain is very useful, the aerial will need re-alignment towards each one. A rotary system would then be worthwhile, but a simple expedient is to use two simple dipoles at right angles with two feeder cables and to switch over to the more effective one when tuning in a station.


Fig. 1: A four element Yagi beam. If the dipole is folded it will provide a better match to $70 \Omega$ feeder. If constructed of metal tubing the centres of the directors and reflector may be clamped directly to the boom.

In practice, if only one aerial is possible, whether indoors or outside, it should be mounted as high as possible. Its direction should be chosen so that it gives the maximum possible pickup of the weakest of the available stations consistent with minimum loss on any of the others. The author uses two separate aerials, a four element for Solent, which still gives acceptable results on Medway and London, and a single dipole for Oxford. The latter is insufficient to reduce the interference from the adjacent Radio London. This raises the other critical point in reception of v.h.f. stations; receiver properties.

## REGEIVERS

Most commercial v.l.f. receivers can resolve clearly two adjacent stations 0.5 MHz apart, but, in some cases, the spread of a local may be so great that it can cover almost a whole MHz of the spectrum, rendering adjacent stations very difficult to find and resolve. On one portable the author could just separate Oxford on 95 MHz from London on $95 \cdot 3 \mathrm{MHz}$ and listen to the former, and yet the same set produced some traces of London on Solent on $96 \cdot 1 \mathrm{MHz}$. Similarly, other sets spread Wrotham Radio 4 on $93 \cdot 5 \mathrm{MHz}$ from just over 93 to 94 MHz . BBC 4 Oxford on $93 \cdot 9 \mathrm{MHz}$ cannot be separated from Wrotham on any of the four sets the author has tried. This
spread rather limits the usefulness of some of the weaker stations.
Reception is also made worse by "spurious signals" which sometimes appear at places on the dial where there is no true signal, although this is more a function of the quality of the receiver. Quite often portables give better results using their own aerial, carefully positioned for maximum signal than when using a high outside aerial. This is because spurious signals appear to be produced in many sets much more strongly when an external aerial is used.
In conclusion, there will be many areas where satisfactory results will be obtained from two or more "local" radio stations. Unless they are very strong, a good aerial system will probably be required to give the best results. It will, however, happen that in some cases spread within the set may spoil the reception of weaker signals close to a local.

## TELEVISION

## MARCH ISSUE

## RENOVATING THE RENTALS

A large number of ex-rental sets are now appearing on the second-hand market and with judicious renovation can be made to give useful service for some time -particularly for the booming market in second sets. Many of these sets exhibit common stock faults and in this new series we shall be passing on tips and advice to help get-and keep-these sets going.

## LINE TIMEBASES OF THE FUTURE

One of the developments that is likely to be with us before long is the slimline colour set, i.e. one fitted with a $110^{\circ}$ shadowmask tube. The main technical difficulty concerns the line scanning and this month we shall be examining an interesting develop-ment-a thyristor line output stage-that has been evolved for this application.

## COLOUR RECEIVER INSIGHT

A great deal of uncommon circuitry is to be found in colour chassis-the sort of thing you've not come across before and can spend hours puzzling over. So we've decided to take the lid off, so to speak, and explain in detail just what those apparent circuit mazes do. Starting with the ITT-KB CVC5 chassis.

## SERVICING TELEVISION RECEIVERS

The next chassis to be covered in this popular feature is the Bush TV103/TV105 series.
plus all the regular features
Advance News: Starting in the April issue, the TELEVISION Colour Receiver for the Constructor.

ON SALE FEBRUARY 21

## TAKE JULLAN ANDERSON <br> 

PART of the fun of electronics is in being able to 'amaze and mystify' members of the family and friends with little tricks. Those unfamiliar with the mysteries of electronics invariably assume that anyone who has tackled even the simplest crystal set is a true genius and, even when they see how few parts are employed, refuse to believe that 'that's all there is to it'. When they can't see the components that make an item tick they are even more impressed -let us not shatter their illusions, let us allow the uninitiated to marvel at our unquestionable brilliance!

Our project this month is purely for fun; to my knowledge it has no practical use whatsoever but it should amuse and it does fall within our budget of $£ 1$.

Using the constructional layout shown none of the component leads need be cut short and this will allow the components to be employed later for some more practical purpose.

The title of magic candle is self explanatory: the wick and flame are replaced by a small light bulb; when a lighted match or cigarette lighter is moved near it the bulb lights up and remains alight until "snuffed" by turning it off.

Apart from the battery, only four components are used: a light dependent resistor (LDR), a thyristor (SCR), a potentiometer (VR1) and the bulb itself.
At normal light levels the resistance of the LDR will be several hundred ohms (though this varies enormously with the specimen and the actual light level) and with VR1 at maximum setting there will not be sufficient current flowing in the gate circuit to trigger the SCR. However, if VR1 is reduced in value and the light level on the LDR increases there will be an increase in current, the SCR will turn on and apply the battery volts across the bulb. Because of the action of an SCR, even when the triggering current falls away completely, current will still be passed in the anode-cathode circuit.

VR1 acts as the sensitivity control; when it is set to minimum resistance and with a sensitive LDR, even quite low light levels will trigger the circuit. At maximum resistance the bulb will probably not light at all.

Ideally one would use both a battery and a bulb of the same voltage but SCRs don't seem to work well at voltages much below 9 V and 9 V bulbs with low current consumption are not widely available. If one can be obtained (note that the current should be no higher than 60 mA ) the circuit is exactly as shown. However $6 \mathrm{~V}, 40 \mathrm{~mA}$ bulbs are available and cheap but to avoid blowing it a $68 \Omega$ resistor should be wired in series with the bulb at the point marked both in the circuit and the constructional layout.
The circuit is best built to look something like a wax candle. A cardboard tube, such as aluminium foil is supplied on, is suitable. The battery sits on the bottom to give stability with VR1 just above this. For ease of wiring it is best to wire up VR1 first with three long leads, two to come out of the top and one that goes down to the battery and then to fit it into a hole cut out of the side.

No. 34
MAGIC CANDLE


Fig. 2: The components can all be mounted inside a cardboard tube.

## $\star$ components list



Prices are those recently advertised in Practical Wireless and may have changed. No allowance is made for minimum order costs or for postage and packing; these points should be checked carefully before ordering.

A stout card disc, cut to go over the top, can then be fitted with the bulb and the LDR which should be lightly glued under a small hole about $1_{4} \mathrm{in}$. in diameter. This should be as near to the bulb as possible. The SCR can be either left floating as shown or it can be glued to the top cardboard disc. A long wire should be fitted to the cathode which is fed down the tube to the battery negative terminal. Once working the tube and top may be painted white to give the appearance of a candle.

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| $1 T$ | . 18 | 30017 |  | ${ }_{\text {EB41 }}^{\text {EAF42 }}$ | - 50 | EM81 | ${ }^{-38}$ | PCL84 | $\stackrel{34}{ } .8$ | UBC41 | - 58 |
| 384 384 | $\cdot{ }_{3}{ }^{26}$ | ${ }^{30018}$ |  | EB91 | - 10 | ${ }^{\text {EM }} 8$ | .84 | PCL86 | .38 | UBF89 | -38 |
| 5U49 | -31 | 30 FLI | . 61 | EbC33 | . 40 | EYS1 | . 83 | PCL88 | -6.5 | UCC84 | $\cdot 32$ |
| 5V4G | -35 | 30FLI9 | . 69 | EBC41 | . 54 | EY86 | . 29 | PCL800 | $\cdot 75$ | tccis |  |
| 5 Y 3 CT | -26 | $30 \mathrm{FL14}$ |  |  | -29 | EZ40 |  | PENA4 | . 77 |  | -58 |
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| 6/30L2 | - 54 | $30 \mathrm{L15}$ |  | EBF89 |  | E280 | -2a | PFL200 | . | UCL89 | 82 |
| gals | -13 | ${ }_{30 \mathrm{P} 4}^{3017}$ | ${ }_{.67} .6$ | ECC88 | . 20 | Cz80 | .84 | PL8I | . 44 | UCL83 | . 55 |
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| 12AT7 | $\cdot 17$ | DH77 | $\cdot 20$ | EF92 | - 80 | PCC189 | . 48 | U47 | de | ${ }^{\text {AF127 }}$ | 17 |
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Books reviewed on this page are normally obtainable through any retail bookshop. In this instance, the information printed in heavy type should be quoted.

# HANDBOOK OF TRANSISTOR EQUIVALENTS AND SUBSTITUTES Published by Babani Press 78 pages, $7 \times 4 \mathrm{in}$. Price: 40 p . 

ONE hardly needs to review a book of this typethe title itself (and the modest price) is enough to make the mouth water. Such a book has long been needed and congratulations to the publishers for introducing it.

Personally I have never met anyone who has known more than a handful of the transistor types available and as far as substitutes are concerned no one has worked out the perfect way of presenting these. This handbook has, however, made a brave attempt (and largely successful one) to give equivalents of transistors in a thoroughly practical way. Equivalents, by the way, only refers to parameters and ignores encapsulation, a sensible thing to do as it opens the field considerably.

About 3,000 types have their equivalents given and in most cases several alternatives are shown; take for instance the OC71, an old fashioned but very well known transistor, here 15 equivalents are shown and this is not untypical.

One of the best points (and if all the other virtues were missing this only would make the book a good buy) is the inclusion of a mass of Japanese types. There must be hundreds of thousands of small transistor radios imported from the Far East which have been written off because a dud transistor is unidentifiable. I have never come across a better list of these types.

Altogether an excellent handbook and, for those who need to find equivalents, indispensable. H.W.M.


PUBLIC ADDRESS HANDBOOK
By Vivian Capel
Published by Fountain Press,
46 Chancery Lane, London. WC2.
208 pages, $8 \times 5 i n$. Price : $£ 3.00$. IVA Vivian! This contribution to the literature of audio is like a light in darkness. With the growing world of discos, clubs and semi-pro 'do's' at the local Church Hall, some guidance is necessary for the well-meaning PA operator. Until now, his only recourse was to very specialist works that told him a lot about the acoustics of the City Hall in Walamazoo but little about hooking up an ailing 10W amplifier to the vicar's home-made loudspeákers.

Public Address Handbook is very soundly based on the author's practical experience. Anyone who has attempted PA will know that the most unexpected problems can crop up. Mr. Capel has worked in small halls and large, on private jamborees and public demonstrations and passes on to us the benefit of his know-how.

There is little theoretical depth. The author argues that you would not be reading the handbook if you
had not at least a glimmering of the background and the acumen to seek out more in the appropriate places. But he takes full cognisance of our probable ignorance where public address is concerned and guides us through the mysteries of microphones and mixers, amplifiers and loudspeakers-always from a practical point of view.

The author is a practising musician and this becomes apparent when one reads his Chapter 10 , 'Live Music.' His advice is firsthand and authentic. Practical systems are described in another chapter; nine working hookups based on requirements that vary between the small hall and the football stadium, taking in a factory canteen on the way.

Still more practical, the final two chapters deal with fault-finding and setting-up. I was tickled pink by Mr. Capel's advice on page 80: 'Never panic, even though the programme may be held up while you try to rectify matters!' There speaks the voice of experience as it does, indeed, throughout this' excellent and rare book on a little-known and infrequently explored subject. For amateur and professional both, this public address handbook is to be recommended.
H.W.H.

## GUIDE TO PRINTED CIRCUITS <br> By Gordon J. King <br> Published by Fountain Press <br> 148 pages, $8 \frac{1}{2} \times 5 \frac{1}{2}$ in. Price: $\mathbf{5 2 . 5 0}$

AN excellent and timely book, written, as the author says, "with the enthusiastic amateur, experimenter and the radio service apprentice and technician in mind."
The six chapters begin with the reasons for the introduction of the printed circuit board and the early problems involved and continues with the design methods and manufacture of boards in the electronic industry. For the reviewer the chapter on "rolling one's own" printed circuit boards was the most interesting with its detailed advice and guidance. Interest was maintained at a high level in the following chapter which covers the alternative systems to the pcb, such as Veroboard, Cir-Kit and S-DeC. Many readers will find the information on converting a circuit diagram into a finished circuit board of the greatest use.

A book such as this would not be complete without detailed information on the methods of servicing pcb's. The author, who has accumulated many years of servicing expertise, has been able to incorporate some of that experience into Chapter Five. Other useful guidance covers the field of soldering irons and guns, solders and soldering aids and the few other accessories which will enable the amateur to turn out a professional pcb.

The book is well written with many photographs and line drawings. $£ 2 \cdot 50$ is little enough to pay for such a mine of information.
A.E.D.


## Continued from the February issue

The circuit of the plinth is shown in Fig. 6. This comprises the power supply, the left and right power amplifier modules and the left and right preamplifiers. The preamplifiers are separately constructed on pieces of Veroboard which plug into two 24 -way edge connectors on the back of the control panel. In return for their small extra cost, the use of edge connectors has some important advantages.
First, construction is simplified since construction of each preamplifier and the fairly complicated wiring around the controls can be separately completed and checked, with improved accessibility in both cases. Secondly, either preamplifier board can be removed in seconds for fault finding; it is very helpful when tracing a fault to be able to swap the preamplifiers and observe whether the fault changes channel. Thirdly, all the small-signal carrying wires are kept as short as possible and run close to the aluminium front panel so that fewer wires have to be screened to avoid instability, hum pickup or radio pickup problems. The latter is especially important since the equipment uses silicon transistors throughout which individually have responses extending far beyond audio into radio frequencies.

## Preamplifier Circuit

This will be fully described as it contains some unusual features. The BC109 transistor was an obvious choice for all stages since it has a very low noise factor and is commendably cheap. Non-branded BC109's may not be as good.
The low level signal is received by the equalisation stage $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ and $\operatorname{Tr} 2$. These are connected as a d.c. coupled pair in which $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ runs at a low collector current of $75 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ to minimise the electrical noise introduced at this vital point. D.C. stabilisation is performed by R8 since if $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ collector current should_rise, Tr2 base voltage drops, $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ emitter voltage follows and $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ base bias is therefore reduced. R8 also provides some signal feedback but the main signal feedback path is from Tr2 collector through C3 and the components selected by S1b to Trl emit-
ter. For radio tuner input the feedback through R11 provides flat frequency response and 150 mV sensitivity at the input. For magnetic cartridge input R13/C5/C6 provide frequency conscious feedback to obtain the standard RIAA disc playback responsesee Fig. 8. Almost any desired input sensitivity and impedance can be made available at the AUXILIARY position of S1 by choosing component values from Table 1. Clearly there is scope for arranging any desired selection of inputs by Sl from the values given, although if planning to introduce more complex switching it is important to bear in mind that this area of circuit is where hum pickup and crosstalk are most likely to occur. For the purpose of the components list it is assumed that the AUXILIARY position is fitted with components for 300 mV input sensitivity, useful for, say, the low level outputs from a stereo tape recorder.

TABLE 1
Component values for different AUXILIARY input characteristics


Virtually all of the preamplifier gain is provided by $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ and $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ which are followed by the stereo volume control VR1. For this a linear track component is chosen rather than the logarithmic type usually used in this position. This has the advantage that the two ganged sections will be better matched than in a cheap logarithmic control so channel balance will be maintained at different volume settings. The preset gain controls VR2 in each channel are a means of overcoming the usual disadvantage of linear volume controls i.e: most of the subjective volume range being compressed into the first few degrees of rotation. The preset controls are intended to be set to give the maximum likely listening


Fig. 6: Circuit of plinth unit. Preamplifier and power amplifier for left channel only are shown, plus balance control VR5. Some components in right channel speaker output shown for clarlty. Rlght channel is identical. All voltages are positive with respect to chassis.
volume with the manual control at maximum, so that its whole range can be utilised. They also allow any difference in the gains of the left and right channels, due to component tolerances, to be compensated so that the manual balance control normally rests midway.

## Emitter Follower Buffer

In most preamplifier designs a Baxandall tone control stage follows immediately after the equalisation stage. Here however an extra emitter follower stage $\operatorname{Tr} 3$ is used as a buffer between the equalisation stage $\operatorname{Tr} 1 / \operatorname{Tr} 2$ and the tone control stage $\operatorname{Tr} 4$. This reduces distortion since the high input impedance of the emitter follower minimises the loading (via the volume controls) on Tr2, and the low output impedance ensures a constant-voltage drive to the varying load presented by the tone controls.

## Tone Controls

Although the Baxandall tone control circuit, with its familiar bass and treble boost and cut characteristic shown in Fig. 9, is used with minor variation in almost all modern high fidelity equipment, its operation is seldom explained and is not obvious. It is best


Flg. 7: Distortion curves for Sanken SI-1020A amplifier module, taken from manufacturer's data sheet


Fig. 8: On modern L.P. recordings high frequencies are boosted to a standard (RIAA) speciflcation to overcome surface noise. The output of a magnetic pickup must be passed through a preamplifier whose frequency response shown above is a mirror image of the recording response i.e. boost at low frequencies, to regain the original sound.
understood by separately considering how the circuit appears at high and low frequencies.

Resistors present the same impedance to signals of all frequencies whereas the impedance of capacitors decreases with rising frequency. Hence at very high frequencies C9/C10/C11 are virtually short circuits and the circuit reduces to Fig. 10a. Conversely at very low frequencies the same capacitors are virtually open circuits and the circuit reduces to Fig. 10b. In both these simplified circuits the components which are ineffective are dotted.

Now both the simplified circuits are just elaborations of Fig. 10c in which a transistor base is fed from the slider of a potentiometer connected between input and output. Assuming the transistor itself has sufficiently high gain, the stage gain is $\mathbf{R b}$ (which Ra
simple relation is the root of all operational amplifier theory). This confirms what is fairly obvious, that the gain is high when the slider is at the input


Fig. 9: Tone control response with C12 linked to NORMAL. Curves are dotted over mid-frequency range where both Bass and Treble controls have some effect.


Fig. 10a: Active parts of tone control circuit at very high audio frequencies
end of the track and drops as it moves to the right due to increasing negative feedback from the output. Thus in Figs. 10a and 10b the active potentiometer simply acts as a gain control at the frequency concerned while the dotted control has no effect. The arrows across the sliders indicate the direction of clockwise rotation and boost. At other than very high or low frequencies the assumptions made about the action of the capacitors become less true and it is only a matter of choosing component values to make the controls progressively effective over desired frequency ranges.

Figs. 10 do not show the base bias arrangement for $\operatorname{Tr} 4$ which is a bleed via R23/R24 from its collector with decoupling by C13 to prevent signal feedback by this route. Stability at all tone control settings is ensured by top-cut capacitor C14.

Cl 2 prevents d.c. flowing in the tone controls and is large enough for its impedance to be negligible at all audio frequencies. It is normally connected to the junction of R25 and R26. It can alternatively be connected directly to Tr 4 collector whereupon the range of the tone controls becomes wider than the specification since they have more negative feedback to "play" with. For normal listening however there is no need for great extremes of tone control.

The signal at $\operatorname{Tr} 4$ collector is taken to a spare pin on the edge connector in case a mono-stereo switch is required. This would just link pin 20 on the left and right preamplifiers for mono operation. But for
record playing at least, where a mono record reproduces through both channels anyway, such a switch seems superfluous. If occasionally one wishes to feed an external mono signal (e.g. from an a.m. radio tuner) into both channels, this can be done by making up a suitable linking adaptor to plug into the auxiliary input sockets.
The left and right preamplifier outputs are taken from a resistor divider whose mid-point is the earthed slider of the Balance control. In anticipation that this preamplifier may be used with other power amplifiers there is provision in the board layout for an. isolating capacitor at the output. This is not needed (though does no harm) with the Sanken amplifiers specified which contain their own input blocking capacitors.

## Power Amplifiers Z1, Z2

The Sanken SI-1020A monolithic power amplifier has already been described in "IC of the Month" and its internal (and inaccessible) circuit is the conventional quasi-complementary Class AB push-pull arrangement. The convenience of its packaging is far more remarkable since its metal case can be bolted directly to a heatsink without any electrical isolation. This i.c. was possibly overshadowed at its introduction by its 50 watt sister (SI-1050) but its excellent distortion claims are the reason for choosing it for the system.

Fig. 6 shows an unusual arrangement at the loudspeaker outputs which solves two problems common to high power push-pull amplifiers. Firstly one may inadvertently overload stereo headphones with resulting distress to ears and/or headphones. Secondly there is the familiar thump from each speaker when the amplifier is switched on, caused by the output capacitor (C19) charging through the speaker. This may or may not be damaging to the speakers but one is certainly better off without it. Accordingly the on/off switch 52 is arranged to pass through a HEADPHONES position between OFF and SPEAKERS. If it is switched through this intermediate position not too fast, C 19 will have charged up via R30 and R31 before being connected to its speaker, so there will be no thump. These resistors also attenuate the headphone signal level to give a reasonable range of volume.

## Power Supply

The simple unstabilised power supply in Fig. 6 delivers 45 V via separate fuses FS1/FS2 to the power amplifiers, and a well smoothed common 30 V supply to the preamplifier boards. The mains input is also fused. A reservoir capacity of $2000 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ is required and can be made up from two $1000 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitors in parallel as shown ( $\mathrm{Cl} 17, \mathrm{C18)}$ or a single component used if available. In either case the capacitor(s) should be good quality components intended for power supply use since there is a hefty 100 Hz ripple current from the bridge rectifier D1-4. The current surge as the capacitors charge up at switch-on is limited to a safe value by R32 which should not be omitted.

The mains input is switched by $\mathrm{S} 2 \mathrm{a} / \mathrm{b}$ to the power supply transformer T1, the turntable (which has its own switch and pilot lamp) and to a neon pilot lamp on the front panel. C20 may be of some use in suppressing r.f. interference from the mains; it is most important that no suppressor capacitor is connected between mains live and the chassis since this would make exposed metal parts live if ever the mains earth connection were broken.

## Turntable, Arm and Pickup

The choice of these three can be left to the constructor since any good quality equipment can be used. Comparative judgments on magnetic cartridges especially are rather subjective.

The author's equipment illustrated uses a Connoisseur Craftsman turntable (very simply but soundly made), Goldring L75 pickup arm and Eagle LC07 moving magnet cartridge. The latter is a fairly recent Japanese product which the author regards as a "best buy" at about $£ 7$ since its performance on a test record is comparable to, say, a Goldring G800E at several pounds more. Tracking is at $1^{1}{ }_{2} \mathrm{gm}$, which can be set accurately on the Goldring arm without a gauge. Readers might well find the Connoisseur BD1 "do-it-yourself" turntable kit a good buy for the system. For economy one of the better BSR or Garrard players would give fair results but a cheap autochanger should certainly not be used since


Photograph shows inside of assembled plinth
the amount of wow and flutter would be unacceptable.

## Plinth Construction

The carpentry is straightforward, the cabinet being made up from five pieces of $1_{2}$ in. chipboard fixed by countersunk screws to ${ }_{1}{ }_{2} \mathrm{in}$. square corner battenssee Fig. 11. A rectangular aperture is cut in the rear board for the rear panel. The turntable mounting board is cut out to suit the unit and arm chosen after having made sure everything will fit under the Goldring perspex lid. The space available here is about $17^{1}{ }_{4} \mathrm{in}$. wide $\times 13^{1}{ }_{2} \mathrm{in}$. deep $\times 2^{3}{ }_{4} \mathrm{in}$. high and it was only barely possible to fit in the author's units, the Craftsman turntable having to be positioned with the motor at rear left. It is not essential for the turntable board to be screwed down to the battens on which its rests, so there need be no screw heads visible after all exposed wood surfaces have been veneered. For access to the electronics the turntable board is simply lifted clear.

Two eyelet screws can be bent to serve as hinges for the rear of the perspex cover and screwed to the turntable board as shown in Fig. 11. A small wood wedge is glued to the board to support the prop-up arm which is part of the lid.

The front panel is an aluminium sheet cut as shown in Fig. 12a. A length of L-shaped aluminium girder is used to hold the two preamplifier edge connectors behind the front panel (or some other support can be arranged) and has tabs ready for
$\star$ components list


Fig. 13: Cutting out and mounting details of rear panel/heatsink.


Fig. 12(a) : Front panel (front view). Fig. 12(b) : Girder. Fig. 12 (c): Cross section of front panel and girder showing method of fixing connectors.
mounting two more edge connectors in case of future needs-see Fig. 12b and c. The girder is held to the front panel by the controls so no screw heads need show at the front. The front panel assembly should fit snugly enough in its slightly recessed position to need no fixing to the cabinet.

A second aluminium sheet forms the heatsink for Z1 and Z2 and also the rear panel carrying four stereo pairs of phono sockets-see Fig. 13. It is fixed to the cabinet by four screws from the inside. The amplifiers should be bolted tightly to the aluminium making sure they make contact over the whole of their bases. A thermally conductive grease can be used to improve the heat transfer but this is not essential for normal listening use.

## NOTE

On page 905 of the February issue, reference is made to strip "S in Fig. 1." This should have referred to Fig. 2.

To the materials list on page 907, the following shouold be added to the FRAME: 4 off $16 \mathrm{in} . \times 7_{8} \mathrm{in}$. $\times 7_{\mathrm{B}}$ in. pine.

The construction details of the inner sheets on page 907 show screw holes in the vertical corner edges of the hardboard-these should be ignored. It would be impossible to use wood screws in this position and they are in fact unnecessary.

THIS is an attractive 7-transistor receiver of straightforward construction, tuning long and medium waves. The receiver is assembled as a complete working unit on a single piece of Veroboard (except for the loudspeaker) and actual building is simplified by using a small, ready-made audio amplifier module. Thus only the mixer and i.f. amplifier are built from separate components.

## CIRCUIT

Fig. 1 is the circuit, and a brief description should be helpful to beginners.

Ferrite Aerial. The ferrite rod has medium wave section L1 and long wave section L2. Switch S1 shorts out the l.w. section for m.w. reception. VC1 tunes the aerial together with trimmer TCI. Trimmer TC3 is for l.w. trimming. A coupling winding on L1 and tapping on L2 applies the signal to Tr 1 base via Cl . Tr 1 is an OC44 mixer/oscillator.
Oscillator Coil L3. This is tuned by VC2, with
trimmer TC2. Capacitor C4 provides "tracking" so that the oscillator circuit always tunes 470 kHz higher in frequency than the aerial circuit. With S1 in the l.w. position C3 and TC4 are across the oscillator winding for long wave reception.
Intermediate Frequency Amplifier. The 470 kHz output of Tr 1 passes to the first intermediate frequency transformer IFT1. Signals pass to the first i.f. amplifier Tr2 an AF117, then from IFT2 to Tr3, another AF117. The three IFTs are tuned to 470 kHz by tineans of adjustable cores.
Emitter Detector. The 0C71 Tr 4 demodulates the output of IFT3 and amplified audio signals appear at the collector and are taken via Cll to the volume control VR1.
Automatic Gain Control. Strong signals increase Tr4 collector current causing an increased voltage drop across R10. The base potential of $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ thus becomes more positive, the change in voltage being applied via R6. As à result, amplification provided by Tr 2 is reduced when strong signals are present,


Fig. 1: Circuit of the Cube Radio. The audio amplifier is obtained as a module, the circuit being given here for reference purposes only.

and the output of the i.f. amplifier is relatively con stant, despite changes in signal level.
Audio Section. The slider of VR1 is taken to pin 1 of the a.f. module which is a small separate unit, mounted on the receiver board, and having only four external connections. The module contains a driver/ amplifier, followed by a pair of transistors in a complementary single-ended push-pull circuit. This drives a 40 ohm or similar miniature speaker, $2^{{ }^{1}}{ }_{2}$ in in diameter.

## CIRCUIT BOARD

The plain Veroboard is $3_{8} \times{ }^{8}{ }^{5} \mathrm{in}$. to fit inside the $4 \times 4 \mathrm{in}$. case. It is cut to clear the corner strips and speaker as in Fig. 2.
Holes are drilled or enlarged to match the pins and screening can tags of L3 and the IFT's, noting that L3 will be fitted in the way which results in pins located as in Fig. 2.

Holes are also drilled for TC3 and TC4, the rod


Fig. 2: Wiring details of the underside of the Veroboard panel on which the receiver is constructed.
mounting and 6BA bolts holding the a.f. amplifier. A clearance hole is needed for $\mathrm{VCl} / 2$, and three holes which match up with the tapped holes in the front of the capacitor frame.

In many places resistor ends and other leads are soldered to Vero pins inserted in the board. These are most easily inserted with the correct tool, which resembles a small screwdriver with a hole, so that when a pin is pushed in it projects equally each side of the board. With $\operatorname{Tr} 2, \operatorname{Tr} 3$ and $\operatorname{Tr} 4$ it is more convenient to put the wire ends through the holes, anchoring only the collector of $\operatorname{Tr} 3$ at a pin.

When wiring is complete, the Veroboard is secured to a $4 \times 4 \mathrm{in}$. panel of ${ }_{16} \mathrm{in}$. black polished paxolin with about ${ }_{16}$ in. space between the two, to clear wiring, pins and VR1. VCl/2 is secured with 4BA bolts or studding which can project about ${ }_{16} \mathrm{in}$. on the capacitor side of the board. Longer bolts will damage the capacitor plates: Another way is to secure the capacitor with short bolts, with washers under their heads, if required. Pancl and board are then drilled with matching holes to take three 6BA bolts. These are countersunk at the panel, and have extra lock nuts, so that panel and board will be held about $7_{16} \mathrm{in}$. apart. The positions of the bolts does not matter, provided they clear resistors, etc., since their heads will be covered by the metal dial.

## FERRITE AERIAL

As the ferrite rod normally supplied is too long for the case, it was snapped off at about $3^{1}{ }_{2} \mathrm{in}$. by securing it in a vice and giving the rod a sharp tap.

L 1 is placed so that the base winding $6-7$ is towards the middle of the rod. Thin sleeving was put on all leads. Lead 1, Fig. 3, goes to the larger section (front) of the capacitor, VC1/2. Lead 2 runs to the wavechange switch $S 1$.

L2 is put on the rod so that its turns are in the same direction as those of L1, which can be seen by looking at the windings. If L2 is reversed, l.w. alignment is impossible, and the winding should be taken off the rod, turned round, and replaced. The

[010063
Fig. 3 : Topside of board showing location of the major components. Ensure that IFT's and L3 are correctly orientated to give pin positions shown in Fig. 2.
outer lead 3 of $\mathbf{L 2}$ joins lead 2 at the switch. The lead 5 taken to positive line must be that which is adjacent to tap 4, which is not at the centre of the winding.
Those lead ends which are single strand wire can be cut, if necessary, carefully scraped, and soldered. But the finely stranded (Litz) wire is difficult to deal with, so the ready tinned ends should be left. Excess length can be taken round the rod in the same direction as the winding.
The rod is mounted by means of a strip of plastic material clamped round it, with a $3_{4} \mathrm{in}$. 6 BA bolt and spacer, or extra nuts, so that it easily clears TC3, TC4, etc. It is as well-to leave fitting of the rod until last.

## WIRING

Switch S1 is mounted by passing its tags through holes in the board. The tag MC is securely held at one of the fixing screws of VCI/2.
Place transistors so that their leads come as in Fig. 3, with sleeving on the wires. Put suitable lengths of sleeving on the wires which project, bend these over, and solder to the IFT's etc. as in Fig. 2.
The screening can tags of the IFT's and L3 must be connected to the positive line, as in Fig. 2. It proves helpful to use red sleeving on this circuit, black on negative circuits, and some other colour on other wiring; $26 \mathrm{~s} . \mathrm{w} . g$. or similar tinned copper wire and small sleeving will be convenient.

## components list



Capacitórs


C5
C6. 0.047 F F
Minimum woiking voltage: 94
TC1/2 part of VCH2
TC3 60 p compresston trimmer
TC4 600F comptassion inmmer
VC1/2 $208+176 \mathrm{FF}$, slow motion, with trimmors (Jachson)

Semiconductors
Tr1 OC44 Tr3 AF117
Tr2 AF11? Tt4 OC71
Inductors
L1/2 Ferite rod aeifal (Denco MW/LWSFR)
L3. Ospillator coll (Denco TOC1)
IFT1 IE Transformer (Denco IFT13)
HT2 IF Transformer (Denco IFT13)
IFT3 IF Transformer (Denco IFT14)

## Miscellaneous

Switch S1, two-way slide switch. Audio amplifier 125 mW (Newmarket PCA). Dlat and knob (Home Radio DL64 and KN64). Plain veroboard 0-151h.
 so ohms.


A general yiew of the completed receiver. It may be tested and alligned in this form before finally fitting it into its case.

Volume control VR1 is fixed with a small bolt and connected as in Fig. 2. Solder the correct clips to red and black flex for the battery.

## AF AMPLIFIER

Connections shown in Fig. 3 are when looking at the amplifier from the components side. Thread thin wires down through the small holes, and solder to the foil below.

Mount the amplifier with bolts, using a few washers to avoid contact with the bolt holding VR1. Take lead 1 through the board to VRI slider (centre tag). Twist leads 2 and 3 together, leaving these long enough to reach the speaker. Take a second lead 3 through the board to battery negative, Fig. 2. Lead 4 goes to the positive line.

Leads 2 and 3 should be soldered to the speaker so that the receiver can be tested before adding the panel.

## IF ALIGNMENT

Use a Denco TT5 or other correct tool for adjusting the IFT's and L3 since a screwdriver or wedgeshaped blade may easily break the cores.

If a signal generator is to hand, set it to 470 kHz connect it to Cl , and adjust the IFT cores for best volume, keeping this low by reducing generator input.

If no generator is available, alignment may be made with any signal tuned in, following by more careful adjustment with a weak signal, if necessary. Do not use strong signals, with VR1 turned towards minimum volume, because the a.g.c. action tends to make adjustment of the cores seem flat with no sharp peak.

When IF alignment is finished, these cores need not be touched again.

## MW ALIGNMENT

The core of L3 has a considerable influence on band coverage. With S 1 at m.w., tune in a station with VC1/2 near maximum capacity and move L1 on the rod for maximum. If dial readings are badly in error, rotate the core of L3, following the signal with VC1/2, to correct this and re-adjust L1 on the rod.

Move to the h.f. end of the band (VC1/2 nearly fully open) and set TC2 for a suitable dial indication, peaking TC1 for maximum volume.
These adjustments should be repeated a few times until no further improvement is obtained. If a generator is available use it at suitable frequencies instead of selecting actual stations.

## LW ALIGNMENT

With Sl at l.w., tune in any transmission, and move L2 on the rod for best volume. Subsequently, it will be found that oscillator coverage can be adjusted with TC4, so that the setting of TC4 and core position of L3 governs band coverage. Then TC3 is peaked for best results towards the h.f. end of the band, and L2 is moved on the rod at the l.f. end of the band.
If any slight adjustment is made to the core of L3, m.w. alignment will have to be repeated. Otherwise merely touch up m.w. adjustments, after completing l.w. alignment.

## CABINET

The cabinet is made of clear Perspex for its novelty effect. The bottom is $4 \times 4$ in. and ${ }^{1}$ sin. thick while the sides are $4 \times 3$ in. and ${ }_{16}$ in. thick. Front and back are also ${ }_{16}$ in. thick, but are $41_{8} \times 3$ in. to overlap the sides. The front is drilled to take the speaker with a grid of holes over the cone area.

The pieces should be accurately cut and the edges smoothed with a file. After cementing together a strip $1_{4} \times 1_{4} \mathrm{in}$. and $2^{3}{ }_{4} \mathrm{in}$. long is cemented in each corner to strengthen the box. The strips were tapped 6BA at the top, to take four bolts which pass through the receiver panel, which is slightly inset in the case top. The Perspex could be drilled for selftapping screws.

A clip is made and fixed to the case bottom with a countersunk bolt, to hold the battery. The speaker leads are long enough to allow the receiver to be lifted out leaving the speaker in the case. A slot is filed to clear the knob of the volume control. Another slot is required for the wave-change switch.

## DIAL

The dial listed has four metal lugs, which pass through slots in the panel. The slots can be made by drilling two or three small holes very closely together and finishing with a very small flat file.

The panel is fixed in the manner described earlier and the dial then put on the lugs being turned over behind the panel. The tuning indicator fitted was a disc of ${ }_{16} \mathrm{in}$. Perspex, with a black line each side to travel over the m.w. and l.w. scales, and fixed to a brass bush which is locked on the capacitor spindle with a set-screw. A Perspex disc is readily cut with an adjustable tank cutter and the bush made by sawing through a ${ }^{1}{ }_{4}$ in. brass shaft coupling. An alternative is to use a stout wire pointer.


HAVE you ever thought just how those complex integrated circuits are made? These innocent looking little slabs of plastic with some 16 pins sticking out of the side are now common to most shops selling components for the constructor.

One of the most difficult parts of the whole process is aligning masks. A slice of silicon is taken and coated with a photoresist. A photographic mask is then laid carefully over the slice and an exposure made. The resultant image is transferred to the slice which, in turn is then taken for processing.

After this first processing, the slice is given the same treatment again; another coating and exposure, then further processing. There may be several printing exposures made during the manufacture of the slice which can quite easily contain thousands of individual tiny semiconductors.

As can be appreciated, because individual devices on the chip are so very very tiny, it is absolutely imperative that during the printing of the individual masks, these must be aligned very, very precisely.

A normal method is to have an operative peering at the chip and the relevant mask through a high powered microscope and the mask guided into position by the operative. While this is successful it does take time since, if the mask is not aligned accurately, several hundred integrated circuits on the slice may be ruined.
A British company has now developed a machine which will align the mask and chip automatically. The secret is the printing of two minute crosses between the pattern for the circuit required. These crosses have their members made up of shaded lines. The machine uses these to align subsequent masks to within 10 micro-inches. Circuit patterns down to $0 \cdot 0001 \mathrm{in}$. can be printed. The entire printing process from when the operative puts the new slice into the holder to the time it is ejected is only 25 seconds.
A further advantage of this British invention is that the masks are not in direct contact with the slice. Thus there is no abrasion on either slice or mask and the life of the masks, which are very expensive indeed to produce, is considerably prolonged.

Once set up, the machine needs no further attention during the run. The slices are lifted automatically in and out of the photo-electric system by precision mechanical arms. The machine is also self-checking and will stop and/or throw up warning lights if anything goes wrong. For example, if there were no slice in the input receptacle the machine would stop. If a slice were to be damaged the machine would stop and flash a light.

Last month the first part of this article described the case, power supply, display units and initial testing. This second part concludes the article.

## DEFLECTION AMPLIFIERS

The next phase of the construction is concerned with the deflection amplifiers. Two of these are required, one each for the $X$ and $Y$ plates. The deflection sensitivity of the CRT used is such that about 100 V peak-to-peak is required to give a full scan on the tube. Most cathode ray tubes require push-pull deflection to give a scan which is free from trapezium distortion. In order to give something extra in hand on scanning ability the push-pull deflection amplifiers have been designed to give 140 V peak-to-peak scan.

The theoretical circuit of the deflection amplifiers is shown in Fig. 10. Tr3a acts as a phase splitter and low gain amplifier. Counterphase signals of equal amplitude appear across R15a and R16a. The only disadvantage of this type of phase splitter is that the two signals have differing source impedances. We therefore push the outputs from the phase splitters into the emitter followers of Tr4a and Tr6a which have a high impedance and are not fussy about signal source impedance. The emitter followers serve a further purpose of controlling the working points


Fig. 10: Circuit of the deflection amplifiers-two are required, one for the $X$ and one for the $Y$ amp. See text regarding R17 and R18.
of the output transistors $\operatorname{Tr} 5 a$ and $\operatorname{Tr} 7 a$ by means of the standing currents in R19a and R20a. Tr5a and $\operatorname{Tr} 7 \mathrm{a}$ are directly coupled to these emitter followers. The voltage gain of the complete amplifier is 12 when referred to a single ended output or 24 when referred to the push-pull output. As the transistors Tr4a and Tr6a control the working points of the output transistors they must be low leakage types. Suspect transistors must be avoided at all costs.

## CONSTRUCTION

The remaining units are built up on a $0 \cdot 1$ in matrix Veroboard panel. The board used in the prototype was $6^{1}{ }_{2} \mathrm{in} \times 4 \mathrm{in}$. It is recommended that at this stage all the breaks in the copper strip should be milled out before construction commences. This prevents disasters due to cross wiring as a result of forgetting a hole (here again the voice of experience speaks). The Veroboard layout, also including the Timebase and $Y$ preamplifier, is shown in Fig. 13.
When using $0 \cdot$ lin matrix Veroboard, some care is necessary to avoid shorting out between conductor strips and when the wiring is complete, run a penknife along between the strips to make sure that no solder overlaps the conductors and that no small blobs of solder are shorting out any of the copper


Fig. 11: The Timebase unit circuit.


Fig. 12: The $Y$-preamp circuit. Note that the emitter resistor of Tr13 should be shown as R35, not as R37; the value shown is correct.


An internal view of the completed prototype. The main circuit board can be seen face on while CB. and C9 (a and b) can be seen mounted below the c.r.t. The sync unit is mounted on the base and cannot be seen.
strips. Wire in all the components with the exception of R17a and $b$ and R18a and $b$ when fixed resistors are preferred as their value must be determined empirically. Do not connect in the h.t. ends of the resistors R21a and b and R22a and b.

Connect the meter between R21a and the h.t. line and switch on. Only a very small leakage current should be indicated on the meter ( $250 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ maximum). If the current is more than this, switch off and check the wiring. If the wiring looks satisfactory, check $\operatorname{Tr} 4 a$ for leakage. If all is well R17a may be wired in place and adjusted to give a standing current of 4 mA in the collector of Tr5a. For those wishing to use a fixed resistor for R17a the following procedure should be followed. Take a $330 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor and bridge between the base of $\operatorname{Tr} 4$ (a) and the 12 V line. Note the current taken. If the current taken by Tr5a is more than 4 mA , increase the value of the bridging resistor until there is a standing current of 4 mA through the collector of Tr5a if the current is less than this figuredecrease the value of this resistor. Repeat the above procedure for R18a and Tr7a.

The construction and testing of the second deflection amplifier (b components) follows exactly that outlined above.
When all is satisfactory connect the output capacitors to the relevant input terminations on the display unit.

## TESTING

Switch on the complete unit and connect the low level signal to the X amplifier input. A horizontal line of approximately 4 cm long should be shown on the tube face. Next apply the signal to the $Y$ amplifier input when a similar line in the vertical plane should be displayed. Next couple the X and Y inputs to the test unit via two $0 \cdot 1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitors when a circle or elipse similar in shape to that shown when testing the display unit should be seen. Whatever shape is displayed it should be regular with no flats, ripples or waves in it. Any distortions which do occur will almost certainly be due to incorrect selection of the bias resistors R17a and b and R18a and $b$.

## TIMEBASE UNIT

The theoretical diagram of the ramp generator is shown in Fig. 11. Tr 8 acts as a constant current source-the current being determined by the variable resistor VR5 and R27. The output from the constant current source is used to charge the timing capacitor CT selected by SW1. The charge on the capacitor rises until the voltage on the capacitor is sufficient to cause the unijunction transistor $\operatorname{Tr} 9$ to fire. When


1002

Tr9 fires it discharges the capacitor and the cycle repeats.

The voltage across the capacitor takes the form of an almost pure sawtooth waveform. Tr10 is employed as an emitter follower-serving to isolate the timing capacitor from the loading effects of the deflection amplifier. VR6 varies the voltage output and, therefore, the scan width. The main advantage of the circuit is that the amplitude of the output waveform is independent of operating frequency for all practical purposes.

Fig. 13 (left): The main component board. The deflection amplifiers are in the middle and at the bottom; the Y-preamp is top left and the Timebase top right.

## CONSTRUCTION

The scan generator is built on the same piece of Veroboard as the main deflection amplifiers and comprises the components on the top righthand side of Fig. 13. SW1 and the frequency control resistor VR5 are mounted on the front chassis and flying leads taken back to the Veroboard. The timing capacitors CT are mounted around the course frequency control SW1. Note that Tr8 is a PNP type and is, therefore, connected upside-down in the circuit.

The timing capacitors CTa to CTd are the subject of individual choice but for general purpose audio work the values shown in Fig. 11 should suffice.

Having connected the timebase unit to the X amplifier switch the coarse speed control switch SW1 to select the $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor. Connect the power supply and set VR6 to the top end (emitter end) of its travel. A horizontal line should now be traced across the screen. Adjust VR6 until the ends of the trace are just visible at each end of the tube. Some adjustment of the X shift control may be required. Apply a signal from the low level output of the test generator to the input of the $Y$ amplifier. A sine-wave should now be displayed on the tube face. The number of waves seen will depend on the setting of the fine speed control VR5. It may be that the peaks of the sine-waves may disappear over the top and bottom of the tube-this is quite in order-the tops of the sinewaves should, however, not be flat. Any flattening of the trace is due to incorrect adjustment of the standing current in the Y amplifier output transistors.

The performance of the $X$ amplifier may also be checked for correct biasing by applying the timebase output to the $Y$ amplifier and the test signal to the X amplifier and following the above procedure.

## Y PREAMPLIFIER

The theoretical circuit of the Y pre-amplifier is shown in Fig. 12. Trll and Trl2 are employed as a bootstrapped amplifier. This configuration offers a very high input impedance (most desirable for an oscilloscope) but gives very little gain, as a consequence the bootstrapped amplifier is followed by the voltage amplifier of Tr13. The gain of the preamplifier is controlled by VR7 which is placed in the low impedance part of the circuit to minimise stray current pick-up in the connecting leads.
The input impedance of the original unit was measured as $1 \cdot 8 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ and the voltage gain 7 .

## CONSTRUCTION

The pre-amplifier is built on the main Veroboard panel shown in Fig. 13. The components around Trll and $\operatorname{Tr} 12$ must have leads which are as short as possible as a precaution against pick-up of stray signals. Screened leads must be used for the connection to VR7 earthing the outer braid to the chassis line at one point only. If the leads of the input capacitor are longer than 10 mm each these too should be screened.

## TESTING

This is probably the easiest circuit to test! Switch on the whole unit and apply a finger to the input capacitor C 11 . With a $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor switched in on the time base unit, a series of sine-waves will be displayed on the tube face (the amplitude of which may be varied by VR7). The input capacitor C11 should now be shorted to chassis-no vertical trace should be seen on the CRT face. If a trace can be seen then more attention must be paid to input screening. The area to concentrate on is the circuitry around $\operatorname{Tr} 11$ and Trl2.

## INPUT ATTENUATOR

The circuit of the input attenuator is shown in Fig. 14. The attenuation provides two decades of attenuation- 10 and 100. As is the convention, the 100 stage is assigned the level 1 and the two other switch positions are referred to this and represent x10 and x100 gain. In the xl position the sensitivity is $20 \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{cm}, 2 \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{cm}$ in the $x 10$ and $200 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{cm}$ in x100 position.


Fig. 14 : The input attenuator circuit.

## CONSTRUCTION

All components are mounted on the switch. As the layout is absolutely straight forward and depends to a large extent on the components used, no wiring diagram is shown.

## SYNC CIRCUIT

The theoretical circuit of the sync unit is shown in Fig. 15. The function of the sync unit is to present a stable trace on the CRT screen. While this can be achieved by careful adjustment of the fine frequency control, the sync unit enables traces of waveforms of varying frequency to be displayed.
$\operatorname{Tr} 17$ acts as a switch and is effectively wired across


The main component board; compare this with Fig. 13.
the timing capacitor CT. When $\operatorname{Tr} 17$ is switched on, CT is shorted and cannot charge from the constant current source. As soon as the base of Tr 17 is open circuited Tr17 then becomes effectively a high resistance across CT allowing CT to charge in the normal way. The resistance of Tr17 in the open circuit mode is sufficiently high not to affect the charge in CT.
$\operatorname{Tr} 17$ is switched by the bistable built around $\operatorname{Tr} 15$ and Tr16. Negative pulses applied to the base of Tr16 switch off Tr17. Negative pulses applied to Tr15 base switch $\operatorname{Tr} 17$ on.
The operational sequence is as follows: as the unijunction $\operatorname{Tr} 9$ fires and discharges the timing capacitor CT, a negative pulse is developed across R29. This pulse is fed to the base of Tr15 and this switches Tr17 on-shorting out the timing capacitor CT. The timebase is now switched off and will not start again until a negative pulse is applied to the base of Tr16, thereby "opening .the gate". These negative opening pulses are effectively the sync pulses and are derived from the $Y$ amplifier circuit.

The sync pulses are derived from the $Y$ amplifier by means of the squarer circuit around $\operatorname{Tr} 14 . \operatorname{Tr} 14$ is an over-driven amplifier producing square waves from any sine-wave or square wave input. The square-wave produced across R42 is put into the differentiator circuit of C16 and R43. From the differentiator circuit two sets of pulses are produced -one set positive going and the other negative going. The positive pulses are rejected by D7 and only negative going pulses are applied to Tr 15 . It must be noted that the resistor R 43 does not repre-
sent the full resistance in the differentiator as the resistance of R45 is effectively across R43 during the negative pulse.

The input to the squarer circuit is derived either from R16 " $b$ " in the $Y$ amplifier or from an input on the front panel for external sync.

## CONSTRUCTION

The original unit was built as a separate unit from the main chassis although there is more than ample room for the sync unit on this board. The layout is shown in Fig. 16.

## TESTING

Wire in the complete unit with the exception of the connection to R29. Switch on and apply a signal to the $Y$ input. The timebase should run as normal. Disconnect the input to the $Y$ pre-amplifier and make up the connection to R29. It will be found that the timebase will not run. Next apply a signal to the Y input when the timebase will fire normally. The degree of synchronisation can be assessed by noting the intensity of the spot at the right hand side of the trace. The brighter the spot the wider the difference between the fundamental frequency of the timebase and the input frequency signal. The "pull-in" range of the sync unit will be found to be very wide.

## CALIBRATION

For maximum usefulness the Y amplifier must be calibrated to determine the deffection sensitivity and the timebase frequency evaluated. The $Y$ amplifier sensitivity can be calibrated using the circuit of Fig. 7. With a mains input of 240 V , a peak-to-peak voltage of 48 V is obtained from the high level output and 4.3 V peak-to-peak from the low level output. By feeding the appropriate output from the calibrator into the Y input, the deflection sensitivities can be measured. It is usual to express the sensitivity in terms of volts per centimetre.

The timebase frequency may now be determined. Before proceeding further the multivibrator of Fig. 17 must be constructed. With the highest value capacitor switched into the CT position, feed in a 50 Hz signal from the calibrator (Fig. 8). Count the number of complete cycles displayed. As each complete cycle occupies 20 milliseconds, the ramp speeds may be computed. The timebase speed is expressed in terms of milliseconds per centimetre. Set the timebase speed so that only one complete cycle is displayed with the sync unit switched off. Apply the output from the calibration multivibrator to the $Y$ input. Set the timing resistor VR300 so that 20 sets of complete square waves are seen. The multivibrator is now set to 1 kHz and is, therefore, producing pulses with a repetition speed of 1 millisecond. This 1 millisecond calibrator may then be used to measure the


Fig. 17: A circuit which may be used for calibration.


Fig. 18: The siting of the controls on the front panel.
speed of the timebase on the higher ranges.
Using the calibrated Y input set the output of the multivibrator to $1 V$ peak-to-peak and seal the output potentiometer VR301 and the timing resistor VR300. The calibrator may then be built into the oscilloscope unit if required. No constructional details are given of this simple circuit.


A rear view of the completed unit showing the resistors makingupR12.

## GENERAL

As stated in the introduction, a wide range of transistors may be used in the circuit. With the exception of the deflection output transistors all the NPN transistors can be almost any type satisfying the following criteria:
a Silicon construction (or low leakage germanium)
b Voe greater than 15V
c Dissipation greater than 250 mW
d Gain greater than 40
The PNP transistors must be of silicon construction as the circuits in which they are employed rely on the transistors having low leakage. Within this limit any silicon PNP working at a low voltage greater than 15 V will be satisfactory.

The output transistors can be any type having a $V_{\text {oe }}$ greater than 120 V and a gain greater than 20.

## Back Numbers

We regret to inform readers that owing to the closure by the Company of the department concerned it will no longer be possible to supply back numbers of Practical Wireless and Television.

To ensure obtaining regular copies of these magazines readers are strongly urged to place a regular order with their local newsagent, or to take out an annual postal subscription.

Reference to past issues of the magazines may sometimes be obtained at certain public libraries who may hold bound volumes. A few libraries are said to offer a photostat service. Alternatively, we are always willing to insert " free request for specific back numbers in our " CQ " column which appears in most issues.

# COMPREHENSIVE multiband recelver (PW Nov-Dec. 1971) <br> FURTHER NOTES <br> By <br> F. G. RAYER 

On the short wave ranges, coverage is approximately $1 \cdot 7.5 \cdot 0 \mathrm{MHz}, 5-15 \mathrm{MHz}$ and 11.31 MHz , similar to that provided with many receivers. As plug-in coils are used, it is easy to split up coverage to include one extra range. This opens out tuning a little, but its main advantage arises if a v.h.f. convertor requiring continuous tuning from $4-6 \mathrm{MHz}$ is added, as this then falls in a single range, avoiding coil-changing.

To add this range, adjust the coil cores for ranges of $1 \cdot 6-3 \cdot 8 \mathrm{MHz}, 7 \cdot 14 \cdot 5 \mathrm{MHz}$ and $13-31 \mathrm{MHz}$. The new or additional range is $2 \cdot 5 \cdot 6 \cdot 0 \mathrm{MHz}$. The coils for this coverage are as follows:

Aerial. "Blue" Range 3. Remove 12 turns from the tuned section, and re-solder.

Mixer. "Yellow" Range 3. Modify as for aerial coil.
Oscillator. Use a "White" Range 3 oscillator coil, instead of the "Red" Range 3 oscillator coil, padder values and connections remaining unchanged.

Proper ganging will be obtained, after adjusting the aerial and mixer coil cores in the way described.

## TUNING METER

Space is available to the left of the tuning scales for a 42 mm square S-Meter ( 1 mA f.s.d.), and a suitable circuit is shown in Fig. 1. With aerial shorted to earth, VRI is rotated until the S-Meter reads zero. When a signal is tuned in, the a.g.c. voltage reduces the i.f. stage cathode current through R1. Less voltage is dropped across R1, causing the negative terminal of the meter to become negative, so that a reading is produced. Sensitivity can be modified by changing the value of R2.


Fig. 1: Additional circuitry required for installing the S-meter
All trimming or other receiver adjustments are directed towards obtaining the highest meter reading. External improvements, as to the aerial-earth system, will also increase meter readings.


# TRANSISTOR CREUITRY Inf hagimers PART 6 <br> <br> H.W. HELLYER \& MICHAEL HOLLLER 

 <br> <br> H.W. HELLYER \& MICHAEL HOLLLER}

## Upper and Lower-case

Those of you who are still with us, and old hands at transistor circuit building, may not need reminding; newcomers may wonder what the heck I am talking about; but recent correspondence reveals that it is necessary to recap on one vital point-the use of upper-case (capital) and lower-case (small) letters when we are discussing transistor parameters.

More than ever necessary when we ourselves are guilty of the cardinal error of using them wrongly. My excuse could easily be that I could not read Michael's scribble that accompanied the little module that we made the subject of Part 5. But I should have spotted that in the section headed "input Impedance", the second sentence of the second paragraph began . . . "H parameters again, but $h_{i e}$ simply means. . . ."
That capital H should have been a small one, of course, and I should have rewritten the sentence so that it did not kick off with " H ".
Later on, talking about the base bias, I committed a similar crime. "The base current $I_{B}$ is found from the formula $I_{B}=\frac{I_{C}}{H_{F E}}$ where $H_{F E}$ is the d.c. current gain of the transistor.

Our capitals are quite right on the suffix-FE refers to the d.c. current gain, certainly, while fe is the forward current gain with output shorted and in the common emitter mode. But the capital $H$ is wrong. As you will have noted from the December 1971 issue, page 711, hybrid parameters have their own strict code of symbolism; and we use $h$, as in $h_{\text {ie }}$ or $h_{f e}$ or $h_{\text {FE, }}$, and so on. On another page, friend Henry, who is probably poking gentle fun at our flounderings, would be quick to tell you that capital H means something quite different!

## Super Alpha

Back then to our subject, the Darlington Pair of transistors, or, to give them their alternative title, the Super Alpha circuit. Their purpose, to recap to the end of Part 5 , to increase the input impedance of our buffer amplifier circuit, without despoiling any other of its good points. Remember, we pointed
out that good matching was more easily achieved if the impedance of the device into which the signal was being fed was ten times or more that of the output which was feeding it.
There is no cast-iron rule about this, but the generalisation needs stating, for, so often, manufacturers fail to agree with any known standard in stating their specifications, and $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ might mean the input "wants to see" $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$, and is actually considerably higher if measured, or might mean that it actually is $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$.

Then, you see, if you try to match some circuits with $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ output into this "specified" input, you simply would not get the conditions that the specifications might have led you to expect.

This is a practical problem, and I make no apology for introducing it at this point, for the Darlington circuit, on the face of it, looks like a complicated way of achieving what could be done much more simply. Not so, as we shall demonstrate by a step-by-step design exercise.

## Why high?

Accept, first of all, that we need a high impedance input. Harking back to the prototype that Mike built, we were able to measure $105 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ input impedance on the built-up model, and could probably have improved somewhat on this with a bit of fiddling. But did you notice the underlined remark that followed? To summarise, frequency limits are affected by the source impedance.

There are occasions when we want to match something whose source impedance is (a) much higher than a tenth, or even a fifth, of our input impedance, or (b) alters drastically with frequency, i.e., is reactive. A perfect case in point is the crystal microphone. There are a lot of these about, and they are often capable of giving much better results than they do when matched into the tape recorders or "Disco" mixers with which they are sold. Don't always blame the microphone: if you don't believe me, ask Cosmocord Ltd., who market a wide range of these devices under the Acos label and get very hot under the collar when they think of some of the ways in which their products are used-or misused!

So, what are the limiting factors that prevent us achieving a higher input impedance, or, to be technical $\mathrm{Z}_{\mathrm{in}}$ ? First, the forward current gain, $\mathrm{h}_{\mathrm{fe}}$. The larger this is, the greater the input resistance will be, $h_{\text {ie }}$. Check back with part 5 to see the significance of this and go on to $\mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{e}}$. This (often overlooked) internal resistance of the transistor itself matters a lot. Because it doesn't show up on circuit diagrams, the clever dicks who simply alter calculated circuits, like the well-engineered Mullard, Ferranti or Motorola published circuits, find their finished construction behaving in unpredictable ways. It is a fixed value. It cannot be altered, but, though small in relation to RE, it has to be allowed for.
RE, the external resistance, seems to give us scope for manoeuvre. Increase this and, as we have seen, we increase the input impedance. Lovely-except that an increase in resistance here will mean an increase in the voltage dropped across the resistor, so we now need a higher supply. Even if this can be made available, it is not always desirable for input stages, where, in general, the higher the operating voltages, the more the noise problem rears its ugly head.

Base bias resistors also have to be considered. Remember, in Part 5, we were very concerned with their effect on the overall circuit. To put it into plain language, if you calculate them to get the best d.c. conditions, you may very well find your circuit unable to cope with the a.c. conditions or the match-ing-which, after all, is why the darned thing is being built!
If the values of base bias resistors are increased, we can reduce their shunting effect on the transistor input d.c. resistance ( $\mathrm{h}_{\mathrm{i}}$ ). But under a.c. conditions, we may very well find the stability of the circuit seriously affected.
So, accepting that there are limits to what we can do in the way of altering components and voltages of a common emitter amplifier circuit in order to achieve a high input impedance, let's turn immediately to the solution, and see what, in fact, it does.

## Darlington Pair

There is nothing magical about the term Darlington. Without delving into the historical context, we are simply referring to a method of combining two transistors in such a way that they effectively form one, but with different characteristics.


Fig. 26 : The rudiments of the Darlington Pair circuit.


Fig. 27: Consider only Tr2, isolated from the rest of the circuit, with imaginary bias.

Take a look at Fig. 26, and you will see this done in the emitter follower mode. As I hope to show later, this is not the only configuration in which it applies, but it suits our purpose at the moment to rip it to bits and discuss the design.

If you want to make a buffer circuit yourself, with a high impedance output, then the following notes may help you adapt your own bits and pieces rather than have to mourn about "those lucky blokes at PW who can lay their hands on anything they want" as a recent correspondent said.

Fig. 26 shows two n.p.n. transistors, connected so that both collectors are taken to the positive rail, the input to the base of the first, $\operatorname{Tr} 1$, is biased in the way we have already seen, but whose emitter is taken to the base of $\operatorname{Tr} 2$. Looked at one way $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ forms the emitter load of Trl; another way, Trl and its operating conditions, determine the base input conditions of $\operatorname{Tr} 2$.

Looking first at Tr2, and referring to Part 5, we see that the output is taken across $R_{e}$, the emitter resistor, via $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{nkt}}$, but the base bias, instead of being derived from two resistors (as with Tr ) depends on $\operatorname{Trl}$ and its operation. So let's pretend for a moment that Trl doesn't exist, and that $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ has conventional biasing, repeating last month's circuit, but with dotted lines to show that the BC109 between them is really the $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ of our present Fig. 26. We now have Fig. 27, where some values are inserted and a few more details are given.

## Calculations

Recapping again, we chose a typical transistor and typical operating conditions, so in Fig. 27 we state an $I_{c}$ of 1 mA , an $h_{\text {FE }}$ of 380 and as the base current $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{b}}$ is the former dividend by the latter,

$$
\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{b}}=\frac{\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{c}}}{\mathrm{~h}_{\mathrm{FE}}} \text { or } \frac{1 \mathrm{~mA}}{380}
$$

which is $2 \cdot 6 \% \mathrm{~A}$.
If now we refer back to Fig. 26. and connect Trl in the base circuit of Tr2, making them similar transistors, as it happens, though they don't necessarily have to be, we shall see that base current of $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ will flow through $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ emitter, so we can immediately say that the emitter current of Trl is $2 \cdot 6 \mu \mathrm{~A}$.

Unfortunately-there's always a catch, isn't there? -at such a low current, almost all forms of transistor likely to be used in our buffer circuits


Fig. 28: Typical variations of forward current transfer ratio hfe with collector current Ic. Note that curve is for specific collector voltage VCE.
would have a very small a.c. current gain $h_{f e}$ in these circumstances. Now do you see why I began with that upper-case and lower-case argument.

We must do something about this. Increasing the current in Tr 1 is the obvious first thought, so we refer to the $h_{F E} / I_{c}$ graph for the transistor in question.

Messrs Mullard, as ever, are immensely helpful, and can provide graphs that tell us practically everything except the Sign of the Zodiac when the transistor was born, so our Fig. 28. is a reproduction of their "typical variation of forward current transfer ratio with collector current". Please note, this is at a particular collector-emitter voltage, in this case $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CE}}=5 \mathrm{~V}$. But from this we can get some idea of what we want, and this is the sort of collector current it would be desirable to use. Here, we see the lowest usable value is down around $10 \mu \mathrm{~A}$. We shall use a collector current of around $50 \mu \mathrm{~A}$, and from the graph we can see that this will give us a d.c. current gain, $h_{F E}$, of somewhere around 260 .

## Increasing $I_{E}$

We have $2 \cdot 6 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ of emitter current so far, and we need $50 \mu \mathrm{~A}$. Let's just revert to previous theory and stick in another resistor $\mathbf{R}_{\text {el }}$ from the ennitter of Trl to the negative line, as in Fig. 29. Now, this circuit is not for construction: it is deliberately


Fig. 29 : The voltage and current plan of the simple circuit from which the final working model will evolve.
drawn to illustrate the design theory; please bear with me!

We have included the known voltages and currents, that is the collector current of $\operatorname{Tr} 2$, which is 1 mA , and the base current of $\operatorname{Tr} 2$, which is $2 \cdot 6 \mu \mathrm{~A}$. So the emitter current is effectively the same as the collector current, as the effect of the very small base current, which also flows through $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{e} 2}$, can be ignored. 1 mA flowing through $2 \cdot 7 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ gives a voltage drop of $2,700 / 1,000$ or $2 \cdot 7 \mathrm{~V}$. That's our emitter voltage of $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ fixed.

The base to emitter voltage of a silicon transistor is around 0.6 V , so we come up with a base voltage for $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ of $2 \cdot 7+0 \cdot 6=3 \cdot 3 \mathrm{~V}$. Take another look at Fig. 29. This is now the emitter voltage of Tr 1 , which was one of the missing factors. Again add 0.6 V and we get a figure for the base voltage of $\operatorname{Tr} 1$, i.e., $3 \cdot 3+0 \cdot 6=3 \cdot 9 \mathrm{~V}$.
$R_{\text {el }}$ is the mystery component. The emitter current of Trl will be the sum of that base current previously considered and the current flowing through $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{el}}$. But we have already said that the required emitter current is to be $50 \mu \mathrm{~A}$. So that leaves us with $50+$ $2 \cdot 6$ or $52 \cdot 6 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ as the actual emitter current.


Fig. 30 : The end result, a Darlington Pair input circuit with reasonably high impedance, good stability and the gain required.

The collector current $I_{C}$ of $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ flows through $R_{e 1}$ and we know the emitter voltage. So $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{el}}$ the emitter resistor

$$
=\frac{3 \cdot 3 \mathrm{~V}}{50 \mu \mathrm{~A}} \text { or } \frac{3 \cdot 3}{50 \times 10^{-6}} \text { or } \frac{3 \cdot 3 \times 1,000,000}{50}=66,000 \Omega
$$

Choosing components within a $5 \%$ tolerance range, we can settle for a preferred value of $68 \mathrm{k} \Omega$, and this is now marked in on Fig. 29.

## Base current Tr1

We now have the correct base current in $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ and the correct emitter current in Trl so can go on to calculate the values of bias resistor we shall need.

The base current of $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ will be its collector current (which we know) divided by $h_{\text {FE }}$, the d.c. current gain. But this base current is only a very small fraction of the emitter current, and can be ignored for the next calculation.

Taking the collector current $I_{c}$ of $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ to be the same as its emitter current, $52 \cdot 6 \mu \mathrm{~A}$, we prove this point by saying:

$$
I_{b}\left(1_{1}\right)=\frac{I_{c}\left({ }_{1}\right)}{h_{F E(1)}}=\frac{52 \cdot 6 \mu \mathrm{~A}}{260}
$$

somewhere near $0 \cdot 2 \mu \mathrm{~A}$.
Developing our final circuit, Fig. 30., and ignoring for the moment that I've already marked in the values of R1 and R2, let's calculate their ohmic values from what we already have. First, a proviso: for good stability, we want about five times as much current flowing in the bias chain as we have base current. So, $0 \cdot 2 \times 5=1 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ as a guiding value.

We know the base voltage of $\operatorname{Tr} 1$ is 3.9 V . The lower resistor, R1, has our desired figure of $1 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ through it, so the value is

$$
R 1=\frac{3.9}{1 \times 10^{-6}} \text { or } 3.9 \times 1,000,000=3.9 \mathrm{M} \Omega
$$

This is a standard value, and a $5 \%$ tolerance component would be used.

R2 has a voltage dropped across it which is the difference between the collector voltage (in this case, the positive rail after decoupling) and the base voltage, $=7 \cdot 7-3 \cdot 9=3 \cdot 8 \mathrm{~V}$. So

$$
R 2=\frac{3.8}{1.2 \times 10^{-6}}
$$

where the denominator in this case is the $1 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ flowing through R1 plus the $0 \cdot 2 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ of base current.

$$
\mathrm{R} 2=\frac{38,000,000}{12}=3,166 \mathrm{k} \Omega
$$

A $3 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ resistor, $5 \%$, is near enough, and two $1.5 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ resistors in series may be a more practical solution.

If you are in doubt about this tolerance business and having to make up values with series or parallel resistor combinations, bear in mind the simple rule: in series, variations in the biggest resistor have most effect-in parallel, variations in the smallest resistor have most effect.

## Input resistance

Looking into the base of Trl, ignoring R1 and R2 for the moment, the input resistance is calculated from $R_{i n}=h_{\text {fe( } 1)} \times h_{h_{\text {e }(2)}} \times \operatorname{RE}(2)$. Approximatelybecause we now ignore those tricky hidden resistors, $r_{e}$ of each transistor, which are now very small in comparison with the values of external $R_{e}$ we have calculated.

Provided $R_{e t}$ is many times larger than $R_{e s,}$, its shunting effect on the input of Tr 2 will be negligible. Make it between 5 and 30 times the value of $R_{\text {e2 }}$ and we shall not have many worries, so our Rel is $68 \mathrm{k} \Omega$.
Harking back to the formula for $\mathrm{R}_{\text {in }}$, we get the $h_{f e}$ figures from the published data sheets ( $h_{\text {fe }}$ rising as collector current rises, remember), see Fig. 31. $\mathrm{R}_{\text {in }}=240 \times 440 \times 2,700=285 \cdot 12 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ to be exact.
The Stage Resistance is the parallel combination of this with R1 and R2, which is-work this one out from the formula

$$
\frac{1}{\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{IN}}}=\frac{1}{\mathrm{R} 1}+\frac{1}{\mathrm{R} 2}+\frac{1}{\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{in}}}=\frac{1}{3 \cdot 9 \mathrm{M} \Omega}+\frac{1}{3 \mathrm{M} \Omega}+\frac{1}{285 \mathrm{M} \Omega}
$$

## Decoupling

Theory and practice never coincide, and the desired rail voltage may be quite a lot less than a convenient battery size. So we drop the residual voltage and decouple the line to prevent alternating signals modulating the battery resistance and causing the supply voltage to vary.
The components used are shown in Fig. 30. and are calculated from the voltage difference $9 \mathrm{~V}-7 \cdot 7 \mathrm{~V}$ $=1 \cdot 3 \mathrm{~V}$ divided by the total current. This is the collector current of $\operatorname{Tr} 1,0.05 \mathrm{~mA}$, of $\operatorname{Tr} 2,1 \mathrm{~mA}$ and in R2, 0.0012 mA , total 1.0512 mA .

We can take this as 1 mA through $\mathrm{R}_{\text {dor }}$, giving $1 \cdot 3$ $\frac{1.3}{1 \times 10^{-3}}$ or $1.3 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. Again, using the nearest preferred value, within tolerance, we'll settle for $1 \cdot 2 k \Omega$ at $5 \%$.

The decoupling capacitor needs to be quite large, as we have already discussed, and a practical value is $100 \mu \mathrm{~F}$. Similarly, a practical value of the output coupling capacitor, C CmI , would be around $10 / \mathrm{F}$.


Fig. 31: Graph of variation of input impedance with collector current.
But $C_{i u}$ need not now be so large as we previously needed. The a.c. resistance (impedance) into which it is feeding is so much higher than before that a value such as $0.022 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ could be used. To check this, take the value that gives the same reactance to your desired lower frequency limit as does the input impedance of the circuit-i.e., the -6 dB point (voltage). This works out to around 4 Hz for $0 \cdot 022_{\mu} \mathrm{F}$ which is plenty good enough for our purpose.

Before leaving the subject, I revert to that designation "Super Alpha". The term alpha, symbol $x$, you will remember from previous notes is in our case the same as $h_{\text {f. }}$. As we obtained our $R_{\text {in }}$ by multiplying the two $h_{\text {fe }}$ figures, the effective $h_{\text {re }}$ of the Darlington Pair is called Super Alpha.

## Other uses

We have only been talking about input circuitry, and an impression may have been given that the Darlington pair is explicitly an input device. Not so, and just to prove it, but without any calculations, Fig. 32 shows four possible configurations of complementary push-pull output stages of audio amplifiers. These are stripped to their essentials, and have all been used in some form or another.

The use of the Darlington pair in power amplifiers


Fig. 32: Four variations of the Darlington Pair as used in push-pull output circults of commercial power amplifiers.
overcomes (to some extent) a disadvantage of complementary symmetry, which is high current dissipation of a Class A driver transistor. Some other solutions exist, of course, such as quasi-complementary circuits, where the driving pair are "opposites" and the driven pair a matched and similar pair of transistors. This is not the place to talk about power amplifiers-a fascinating subject-but to illustrate the Darlington pair, so first to Fig. 32(a), where the two "halves" of the complementary circuit are formed from two pairs, much the same as we have already dealt with.

The drawback here is a biassing problem: base/ emitter voltage at the point of conduction differs widely between driver and output transistor. Some bias adjustments are needed to supplement the work of the diodes.

Fig. 32(b) is an alternative, solving some problems, but really doing no more than turning the Darlington pairs upside down.

If we try, instead, the pair "inside out", we produce the cascaded complementary configuration of Fig. 32 (c) where each set operates as an emitter follower. It is easier to provide bias because the diodes are more easily matched, but Fig. 32 (d) shows the more usual solution, where we get the power gain of the two cascaded common emitters and a better bias system. But it has a drawback not always taken care of in eventual construction, and that is a more touchy thermal stability.

## TO BE CONTINUED

- wave loop antenna. North American stations logged include WOR New York on 710 kHz ; CBM Montreal on 940 kHz ; WINS New York 1010kHz; CBA Moncton on 1070 kHz ; WBAL Baltimore 1090 kHz ; WNEW New York 1130 kHz . He asks if medium wave DX is best during periods of anticyclonic weather. Although high pressure systems affect v.h.f. reception they appear to have no effect on the medium waves. Propagation on the lower frequencies is through the ionosphere which lies far above the thin shell of weather that surrounds the earth.
P. J. Kay who lives in Magull near Liverpool, reports reception of WNEW 1130 kHz at 0030 hrs on November 15th using a Perdio transistor portable. Very occasionally, high power North American medium wave stations such as WNEW, which is 50 kW , are received in this country at considerable strength and can be heard from a favourable location on simple equipment. More reliable reception will be obtained by using a sensitive and selective receiver of communications standard along with an outdoor aerial or an indoor medium wave loop. Search before midnight for the following stations, all of which have been logged frequently during recent months. CBN St John's, Newfoundland on 640 kHz ; CJOX Grand Bank, Nfld and WOR New York, both on 710 kHz ; WDHN Boston on 850 kHz ; CJON St. John's 930 kHz ; CHER Sydney 950 kHz ; WINS New York 1010 kHz ; CBA Moncton 1070 kHz ; WNEW 1130 kHz . These broadcasters are easy to identify as they use their callsigns frequently. After midnight look for Godhavn in Greenland on 650 kHz . It can usually be heard with programmes in Danish or "Greenlandic", when reception from North America is favourable.

Harold Emblem of Mirfield, Yorkshire, reports reception of the new EAK5, Radio Popular Las Palmas in the Canary Islands on 836 kHz . Michael Barraclough of Whitby mentions that this newcomer to the band is anxious for reception reports which should go to AP744, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria-1, Canary Islands. Harold has also logged. the new outlet at Abu Dhabi in the Persian Gulf on 809 kHz at 0230 hrs . Radio Pakistan has been heard testing on 1010 kHz and has been logged by the writer at 2320 hrs. This station is believed to be in West Pakistan.

Gordon Darling of South Harrow draws attention to a recent supplement to the Post Office Guide which says that Commonwealth Reply Coupons are no longer accepted in Canada, Australia, Ceylon, Trinidad and Tobago. In future, MW DXers sending reports to Canada will have to enclose an International Reply Coupon.

Please send reports and information about the medium waves to the author at 132 Segars Lane, Southport, PR8 3JG.

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NOW that we have all recovered from the Festive Season we can get back to our shacks and start logging some DX. Many of you will have received new equipment as presents so how about putting it to good use and sending in a report.

## Logs

The first report this time comes from Bryan Ewing in Seven Kings, Ilford. Bryan's equipment consists of a Codar CR70A, an ATU and a 50 foot long-wire, his log included:-
6025 Radio Portugal at 2112.
6075 R.A.I., Rome, Italy at 0436.
6120 S.B.C., Berne, Switzerland at 0152.
6170 Radio Sofia, Bulgaria at 1900.
7105 R.N.E., Spain at 2030.
7230 Radio Monte Carlo at 1125.
7290 Trans World Radio, Monaco at 1525.
9460 Radio Pakistan at 2005.
9525 All India Radio at 2015.
9615 H.C.J.B., Quito, Ecuador at 0402.
9625 Radio Sweden at 1115.
9645 Vatican Radio at 2030.
9680 Trans World Radio, Monaco at 0925.
9710 H.C.J.B., Quito, Ecuador at 0146.
9912 All India Radio at 2015.
11710 R.A.E., Argentina at 2345.
11730 R. Nederland, Bonaire at 0200.
11750 Finnish B.S. at 1000.
11815 Trans World Radio, Bonaire at 0110.
11830 Radio Havana, Cuba at 0109.
11835 R.T.V. Algerienne in French at 2100.
11875 R.S.A., South Africa at 2347.
11895 All India Radio at 2330.
11955 Voice of the Lebanon at 0230.
15200 Vatican Radio at 1500.
15200 Voice of Nigeria at 0648.
15325 Radio Canada at 1520.
15410 United Nations Radio at 1700.
17820 Radio Canada at 0743.
17945 Radio Pakistan at 1345.
21545 Radio Accra, Ghana at 1445.
21590 Radio Pakistan at 0806.
(All these transmissions were in English except where otherwise stated.)

Robin Yates of Deganwy, Caernarvonshire heard the following stations on his Alba stereogram:-
5960 H.C.J.B. Quito, Ecuador at 0800.
5990 Radio Canada at 0715.
7310 Radio Vilnius, Lithuania at 2230.
9530 All India Radio at 1930.
9690 WNYW, U.S.A. at 2100.

## THE BROADCAST BANDS Malcolm Connah Frequencies in kHz - Times in GMT

9805 Radio Cairo at 2145.
11935 FEBA, Seychelles noted at 1730. 15130 WNYW, U.S.A. at 2000.
15155 Radio Havana, Cuba at 2010.
17720 WINB, Red Lion noted at 1930.
17855 NHK, Japan at 0800.
Clive Jones of Colliers Hatch near Epping describes his equipment as "a four valve domestic receiver with a looped, coiled and bent, untuned dipole!" This equipment enabled him to hear:-
6025 Radio Portugal in English at 2100.
9009 Kol Israel in English at 2120.
9480 Radio Kiev, Ukraine at 1950.
9545 R. Accra, Ghana in English at 2115.
9630 R. Sweden, Saturday Show at 1100.
9695 R.S.A., South Africa at 0040.
11720 Radio Canada in English at 2120.
11765 Radio Australia at 0900.
17880 H.C.J.B., Quito, Ecuador at 1915.
Julian Moss of Rayleigh has a Meridian 10 transistor superhet and a 60 foot long-wire enabling him to hear:-
5960 H.C.J.B., Quito, Ecuador at 0815.
6025 R. Portugal, Voice of the West at 2130.
7235 R. Australia in English at 1530.
9460 R. Pakistan with news at 2100.
9525 R.S.A., South Africa, English at 2245.
9530 A.I.R., Delhi in English at 1915.
9530 V.O.A., Monrovia, sign-off at 2230.
9545 R. Accra, Ghana in English at 2045.
9550 Finnish B.S. in English at 1830.
9570 R. Australia with DX News at 0735.
9575 R.A.I., Rome in Italian at 2130.
9620 R. Belgrade, Yugoslavia at 1550.
9625 R. Sweden in English at 1255.
9625 Radio Canada at 0720.
9670 Damascus, Syria, news in English at 2030.
9690 WNYW, U.S.A. at 2000.
9695 R.S.A., South Africa in English at 2215.
9745 R. Baghdad, Iraq in German at 2045.
11720 Radio Canada in English at 2120.
11765 Radio Australia in English at 0735.
11770 A.F.R.T.S., football match at 1950.
11790 A.I.R., Delhi; news in English at 2200.
11805 VOA, Greenville, N. Carolina at 1930.
11970 R.S.A., South Africa news in English at 2238.

Reports should arrive by the 15 th of the month and be addressed to me at 5 Ranelagh Gardens, Cranbrook, Ilford, Essex.

## Changing Clock

Times certainly are changing．Eighteen months ago you would have been lucky to afford the components for a digital clock even if you could have tound a supplier－ but 1972 sees the dawning of a new age． While digital techniques become better known，prices continue to fall（about $50 \%$ last year）．This digital clock is mains fre－ quency operated and although it uses 12 i．c．＇s（price at the time of writing 67 p each） there is practically nothing else apart from the readout tubes．For the serious con－ structor now is the time to enter the digital field and how better than with a really practical project such as our digital clock．



UITE an easy month on the Amateur bands with not too many scribes sending in logs. I expect you're all still getting over the excitement of Christmas plus the novelty of the presents. Hands up all those who got a nice new receiver?

Some reporters have bemoaned the difficulties of learning to read c.w. signals and have asked if there is any "easy" way to pick up the morse code. If you own a tape recorder then you're half way there. All you need is some sort of morse key and buzzer (or better still an oscillator) and you can record your own morse. This will give you practice at sending and you can then play the tape back and practice reading also. Advantage is that you can send at just the right speed for your particular ability at receiving. Hint; use groups of mixed letters which don't make any sense, i.e., AMSZX, ATHQP, etc. This stops you anticipating the next character and makes sure that you really do "read" every symbol.

Another aid is the many slow morse transmissions which members of the R.S.G.B. put out specifically for those wishing to learn to read c.w. Topband is a favourite and since these stations are located all over the country there is almost certain to be a local station near you. In any case, you can see how many of the slow c.w. members you can log. There is some very good d.x. to be heard on c.w. On topband, for example, down very close to 1.8 MHz you can often hear $W$ stations. So get a copy of the code, learn it and start using your receiver to the full. Incidentally, you need a b.f.o. for c.w. reception and if you are one of the many who are just getting your feet wet on the amateur bands with a commercial broadcast-type receiver which happens to cover short waves but which doesn't have a b.f.o., then take a peep at the January 1972 issue of Practical Wireless. On page iii of the Experimenters Circuits Supplement you will find a very simple circuit for a b.f.o. which can be used in conjunction with most receivers. Check that your receiver has an i.f. of 465 kHz or 1.6 MHz otherwise you will need to change the i.f. transformer shown in the circuit. Incidentally, this external b.f.o. will also enable you resolve single sideband too.

If you kid yourself that you are already well proficient in the gentle art of reading c.w., try tuning in at 1900 g.m.t. on the first Tuesday of each month. Listen on $3 \cdot 520 \mathrm{MHz}$ for the G3BZU morse proficiency transmissions. These rattle merrily away at $20,25,30,35$, and 40 words per minute. If you get it all down 100 per cent correct and send it with 10p to the QRQ Manager, RNARS, H.M.S. Mercury, Leydene, Petersfield, Hants, you get a nice certificate which tells all and sundry what a super dot and dash sorter-outer you really are.
Another query which keeps cropping up in the mail is the one involving some poor s.w.l. who, while reading about beams and long wires, is stuck in a

## THE AMATEUR BANDS David Githson, G3JDG

## Frequencies in kHz - Times in GMT

room on the umpteenth floor of a "no aerials allowed" block of flats.

One idea is to build an a.t.u. (antena tuning unit) and put a length of wire around the picture rail. Another sneaky (but effective) aerial is made by getting a length of enamelled copper wire, about 24 s.w.g., boring a hole in a small sorbo ball and pushing the end of the wire through and anchoring or tieing it. You can now lower the ball out of the window and play out the wire. You've virtually got a vertical antenna and the good thing is that even with Al vision, 24 s.w.g. enam. is invisible at more than a few feet. Idea of the rubber ball is to weight the wire and hold it down and also, if it's windy, the ball doesn't stove in someone's window 22 floors down. The idea of using some form of metal rod clipped to the window ledge will work but there is always the hazard that it will fall off and skewer some poor soul to the sidewalk-definitely not recommended!

Gibby's been chattering again and not getting on with the logs, but some questions in the mail come up agaïn and again, so periodically it seems a good idea to answer these.

Chris Kitchener (Haverhill) has been swotting for O-levels and the R.A.E. (gd lk OM). Time between "swots" brought signals from SV0WII, SM4DIT/MM, VK2YU, ZD3D, ZL3RB, 4X4SM, 8R1J, 9H1CU and 9 J 2 JY all on a TR500SE receiver and PR30 preselector plus a tank whip at 36 ft .
Interesting letter from John Stevenson (Woking) who has been playing with a solid state direct conversion receiver. This has two BCl08's as a product detector fed from the aerial, BC108 b.f.o. and another three BC108's as an a.f. amplifier. Aerial is 50 ft . end fed "wrapped round an oak tree." (Bet it brings in the signals a "Treet"). Preliminary peeps on 14 MHz raised visions of CT1BT, IS1LID, IT9CLB, PY7EXY, UA3IQ0, UB5AD, ZE1BP, 5Z4GK, 9H1GK.

Howard Dearing has dropped the s.w.l. prefix and now talks back signing G3XVX. Rig is a homebrew running 25W p.e.p. and 10 W c.w. Receiver is a Hammerlund Super Pro with a homebrew topband converter using $3 \cdot 1-3 \cdot 3 \mathrm{MHz}$ as an i.f. Howard's log for 1.8 MHz stations worked (I'm green already) reads: K2GNC, K8RNE, VE3EK, W1WQC, W2FD, W2IU, W2UEZ, W3GM, W4WFL/1, W4QCW, ZD8AY (Ascension Island) all on c.w. On s.s.b. the log reads: WlWQC, W1HGT, W2HCW. Antenna is an inverted L Marconi with 55 ft . vertical section some 10 ft . longer than an electrical quarter wave and tuned with a series capacitor. Earth system is a radial affair plus 12 buried copper pipes.

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## Bottled-up

With regard to Mr. D. Smith's letter (January 1972 issue), I would like to point out to him that he most certainly is not the last of a "dying breed." Speaking as an ardent valve lover, I personally believe that the transistor will never completely overcome the valve, as if it does it would bring about the downfall of amateur radio as we know it. As for integrated circuits, they are beneath contempt and unworthy of further comment. So Mr. Smith is definitely not alone and does most decidedly have "relatives somewhere" as far as valve lovers are concerned - 807's in par-ticular.-P. I. Martin (Sussex).

Having worked on several transistor radios which almost fall to pieces when you try to service them I can appreciate D. H. O. Smith's preference for valves.

However I am wondering if valve enthusiasts can take hope, for I notice that quite a number of instruments are using a device which in effect is a miniature valve and called a nuvistor. Is this the valve making a comeback? Having unsuccessfully tried to obtain some literature on these nuvistors I am wishing some day the editor will commission an article on these to lighten our darkness.

Until the happy day when valves return may we not lift any printed circuits with soldering irons or blow up half a dozen transistors when searching for one faulty one.-K. Freeby (Plymouth).

I too suffer from being one of that dying breed. Mr. Smith has my complete sympathy. $99 \cdot 9 \%$ of my equipment is fully "bottleized," including a 50 watt r.m.s. (sine wave drive) amplifier which has given no trouble for about 3 years. Everything I build with valves works first time and goes on working. Few people realize how easy and cheap valve
equipment is to make, and in my opinion valves are best for starting people off on electronics, because, electrically, they are infinitely more robust than transistors. To any other valve enthu-siasts-please, please write to this column and make your existence known. Incidentally the 50 watt amplifier can be made for $£ 30$ complete.-T. Watton (Hull).

I agree with D. H. O. Smith (Herts) "Dying Breed"-January '72. He is not alone in his support for the radio valve.

I do a fair amount of servicing of valve sets and I would support the valve against the transistor for tone and quality (except for the larger transistor sets which have larger loudspeakers, etc.J. F. Wade, (Leyland, Lancs).

## Cassette deck

With the advent of the tape cassette isn't it about time some manufacturers put onto the market a cassette deck.

By this I don't mean a recorder with pre-amps and record amps to be used with an external amplifier such as a Hi-Fi system. But strictly speaking a tape transport. Where the individual can build his own tape recorder as he would with a reel to reel machine. It is pleasing to see in Practical Wireless the building of recorders but there is an increasing lack of tape transporters, only one being advertised at the present time in this magazine.

For a variation one has to go to the upper price brackets such as Brenell and TRD decks. So come on manufacturers how about a tape transport for cassette tape-recorders.-V. C. Watts (Bath, Somerset).

## Join the club

I should be most grateful if some publicity could be given to our club through the medium of Practical Wirless. The club was formed early in 1970 and today,
with over a hundred members, has its own club rooms at 81 Virginia Street, Glasgow, C1.
Meetings are held each Friday at 8 p.m., at which slow morse is given by GM3HLQ. Lectures by club members and the occasional film form the main subject material of our meetings.

On the premises we have our own club station, with call sign GM4AGG, which is active on the HF bands with a KW2000, 70 MHz with a Pye Ranger, and 144 MHz with an IC2F.

On December 10th we held our first annual dinner at which GM3AEL (Zonal Rep.)) presented our club with the Scottish N.F.D. Irophy for 1971.-Victor T. Budas, GM3VTB, (Hon. Sec. 28 Kelvinside Gardens, Glasgow, N.W.)

## Transformed!

May I reply to Mr. R. Wibberley's letter in the December issue in which he condemns modern methods of transformer winding.

He states, "Enamelled wires are clearly inferior and unreliable. More so when wax impregnated." Correctly used, with the layers of wire separated with suitable insulation, enamelled windings are extremely hardy. Why else would they have become practically the standard material in low to medium power transformers? As a bonus, enamelled wire is cheaper and much less bulky than Mr. Wibberley's preferred silkcovered winding.

Mr. Wibberley also says, "Oil insulated windings are inferior, especially when mains voltages are used in primary windings." May I point out that National Grid transformers are completely immersed in oil for cooling purposes and these devices operate reliably at voltages between 11 kV and 400 kV .-C. Wright (Northants).

[^2]

V.P. MILLS, writing from 9 Fryars Bay, Beaumaris, Anglesey, Wales, says, 'I possess a piece of ancient equipment owned by my father. It is a Sterling 2 -valve upright cabinet receiver type BR2, instrument number 198 manufactured by Sterling Telephone and Electric Co. Ltd., London. Manufactured circa 1926 and using Marconi-Osram bright emitter valves types R5, red spot and green spot or alternatively type DER. The set is complete with Sterling headphones.

Unfortunately at some time the set was dismantled and whilst I have rescued the components concerned, I am devoid of the all important circuit diagram.

Recently I have been lucky enough to purchase another set found in an old workshop perched on a Welsh hillside. It is an exceptionally small receiver with valve holders and reaction coils located externally on top of the metal case. The set is titled "Polar Twin Receiving Set" (no Model No. or Serial No. given) and bearing a notice stating "Use with Mullard-Polar Valves".
Valves actually used are believed to be PM1 and PM1A. This set is also believed to date from 1925-6.
A very small S. G. Brown Hornspeaker was available, this has been restored and is now operational. There are a few loose ends within the receiver however which I think I can unravel.
I am particularly anxious to get these receivers


Mr. D. J. Lord's receiver.
operational and Hamilton Radio who offer service sheets back to 1925 have not been able to help so I am writing in the hope that as a focal point of Veteran Radio you may be able to help or alternatively suggest a possible source of supply of relevant circuits.

I would also be very pleased to hear of any known source of supply of R5 or DER valves. Meanwhile keep the good work going, I hope to be able to join in shortly."

Mr. D. J. Lord, of 61 Empingham Road, Stamford, Lincs. tells us that although he was not around during the 20 's and 30 's, he has found the "Going Back" articles on the early days of radio most interesting.

On reading the article in last April's issue, he saw that Mr. F. C. Burgess has an old Marconiphone 2 valve set, which from his description must be very similar to the one that he has himself.

Mr . Lord enclosed a photograph of his set, the details of which are:-

Marconiphone V2A Long Range Model Type RB1B, Long Range Model M19, Inst. No. S/E 3926, G.P.O. Reg. No. 0175. Approved by the Postmaster Gen.
The set is still in working order, and is complete with a Marconi Distributor Unit for up to four pairs of headphones, and plug in coils and regenerator units covering the range $340-440 \mathrm{~m}, 390-530 \mathrm{~m}$ and $1300-1700 \mathrm{~m}$ Long Wave.

The date of manufacture, or the original cost are not known, but he has always assumed that it was about 1923, and would be interested to learn the exact year if any reader can advise him. (We at P.W. would have said about 1924-1926)

He also has a copy of the BBC Hand Book for 1928. which contains an interesting selection of photographs and descriptions of the range of wireless sets available at that time, all of which appear to be of a considerably later design than his Marconiphone model.

## Fintage $\mathbb{C O}$

EOOKS FOR Disposal 1923. The first circuit is No. 68 and they go on to No. 151. Offers invited.-J. H. Greer, North Lodge, Great Ponton, Grantham, Lincolnshire.
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SOME time ago this column featured its first hybrid i.c., a 50 watt audio amplifier from Sanken of Japan. The hybrid approach, in which no attempt is made to fabricate the complete circuit of the unit on a single silicon chip (the "monolithic" approach), is particularly suited to high power or ultra high frequency applications.

Operation in these conditions poses requirements, such as component separation for minimum thermal or capacitative interaction, which are difficult to achieve within a single semiconductor slice. In audio circuits in particular it is advantageous to separate the output transistors, with their high current and thermal dissipation problems, from the driver stage which may usefully be monolithic.

Together with "chip" capacitors, which are also difficult to fabricate monolithically, these elements may be assembled into a single module or hybrid integrated circuit. This month's unit is an imported hybrid audio amplifier whose 20 watt rating fills the gap between the Sanken device already mentioned and the increasingly popular monolithics, whose power dissipation is of the order of 5 watts (G.E. type PA246, etc.).

The device is available from Erie Distribution Division, Erie Electronics Ltd., Gt. Yarmouth, Norfolk, and is quoted in the latest available price list at $£ 4 \cdot 31$ for small numbers.


Fig. 1: Circuit of the hybrid audio amplifier.

## Circuit

Now for a detailed consideration of the capabilities of the unit. The high intercomponent leakage resistance possible with hybrid construction permits the use of supply voltages higher than is usual in i.c. work, with consequent lower currents for the same output, and the TH9013P therefore has a maximum supply rating of 50 volts at a current of $1 \cdot 2$ amps. The device should be attached to a heat sink of 300 sq.cms., giving a thermal resistance of $4^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{W}$ or lower. This should retain the operating temperature of the device at $50^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ or lower, but allowable case temperatures range from 0 to $90^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ during operation, giving considerable latitude.

The circuit in Fig. 1 indicates that the device follows fairly conventional Class B lines, with identical n.p.n. silicon power transistors in push-pull, preceded by a complementary pair phase-splitter driving stage. A considerable advantage is the selfregulating character of the circuit, which does not require an external preset resistor to obtain symmetry of operation. Crossover distortion is therefore minimised, and ease of operation assured. In fact, the overall distortion figure quoted for the unit, at a signal frequency of 1 kHz , is $0.3 \%$ at the full rated output of 20 watts, while the frequency response is flat to within 2 dB from 10 Hz to 40 kHz . So it follows that if a pair of these devices is incorporated in a stereo outfit, departures from hi-fi standards should be sought in the record deck, the speakers or the preamps. Anywhere, in fact, except the power output stages!

## Power supplies

It is recommended that operation of the unit should be from twin power supplies rated at $\pm 22 \cdot 5$ volts. Such supplies are easily constructed using four silicon diodes of appropriate rating to make up a dual full wave rectifier set, working from a transformer with centre-tapped 45 volt secondary followed by suitable smoothing capacitors (at least $500 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 50 \mathrm{~V}$ ).

Fig. 2 indicates the connections necessary for operation in a standard audio system, with the dual power supply mentioned; it also puts forward a method of operation from a single 45 volt supply should that prove necessary, using a $2000 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ d.c.
blocking capacitor between the output of the amplifier and the 8ohm loudspeaker load. It is important to include the fuse link in the circuit; operation into an inadequate load can permanently damage the output transistors and some form of protection is vital. It should be noted that in the single supply case, the fuse link is in the power supply line, since otherwise the charging surge of the blocking capacitor could well blow the fuse.


Fig. 2a: Connections to the TH9013P when using a dual power supply.


Fig. 2b: A single 45 volt power supply simpliffes the external circuitry.

## Notes

Several i.c.'s suitable as preamps for the Toshiba unit have appeared from time to time in these columns, with associated tone and volume controls, so details of these accessories will not be pursued here.

The unit is presented in a sealed package $3 \times 2 \times$ $5_{8}$ in. with a machined face and mounting holes for heat sink attachment. Connections are via eight pins on the side of the package; the numbering in Fig. 1 is from left, when facing the pins with the heat sinking face downwards. For a convenient, economical and effective power amplifier for domestic applications, the TH9013P is certainly worth consideration.


## ISSUES WANTED

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2. Fewer external components
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4. Compatible with Project 60 modules.
5. Specially designed built-in heat sink. No other heat sink needed.
6. Full output into $3,4,5$ or 8 ohms.
7. Works on any voltage from 6 to 28 volts without adjustment.
8. NEW 22 transistor circuit.
[^3]Output power 6 watts RMS continuous (12 watts peak).
Frequency Response 5 Hz to $100 \mathrm{KHz} \pm$ 1 dB .
Total Harmonic Distortion Less than $1 \%$. (Typical 0.1\%) at all output powers and all frequencies in the audio band.
Load Impedance 3 to 15 ohms.
Input Impedance 250 Kohms nominal.
Power Gain 90dB (1,00@,000.000 times) after feedback
Supply Voltage 6 to 28 volts (Sinclair PZ-5 or PZ-6 power supplies ideal).
Quiescent current 8 mA at 28 volts; low enough to make the IC. 12 ideal also for battery operation.
Size $22 \times 45 \times 28 \mathrm{~mm}$ including pins and heat sink.

With the addition of only a very few external resistors and capacitors the Super IC. 12 makes a complete high fidelity audio amplifier suitable for use with pick-up, F.M. tuner etc. Alternatively, for more elaborate systems, modules in the Project- 60 range such as the Stereo 60 and A.F.U. may be added.


FREE 44 page instruction manual now included with all units. Available free on request to present IC. 12 users, Gives full circuit and wiring diagrams for many applications including car-radios, oscillators, etc.


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Project 60 offers more advantage to the constructor and user of high fidelity equipment than any other system in the world.
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Typical Project 60 applications

| System | The Units to use | together with | Cost of Units |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Simple battery record player | Z.30 | Crystal P.U.. 12 V battery volume control | ¢4.48 |
| Mains powered record player | Z.30, PZ.5 | Crystal or ceramic P.U. volume control etc. | £9.45 |
| $20+20$ W. stereo amplifier for most needs | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \times \mathrm{Z.30s,} \mathrm{Stereo} \mathrm{60,} \\ & \text { PZ. } 5 \end{aligned}$ | Crystal. ceramic or mag. P.U..F.M. Tuner. etc | E23.90 |
| $20+20 \mathrm{~W}$. stereo amplifier with high performance spkrs. | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \times 2.30 \text { s, Stereo 60, } \\ & \text { PZ. } 6 \end{aligned}$ | High quality ceramic or magnetic P.U., F.M. Tuner, Tape Deck, etc. | £26.90 |
| $40+40$ W. R.M.S. de-luxe stereo amplifier | $2 \times 2.50$ s, Stereo 60 PZ.8, mains trsfrmr | As above | £34.88 |
| Indoor P.A. | Z.50, PZ.8, mains transformer | Mic., guitar, speakers, etc.. controls | f19.43 |

[^4]
# from a simple amplifier to a complete stereo tuner amplifier with Project 60 modules 

Z. 30 \& $\mathbf{Z . 5 0}$ power amplifiers


The $Z .30$ and $Z .50$ are of advanced design using silicon eptaxial planar transistors to achieve unsurpassed standards of performance. Total harmonic distortion is an incredibly low $0.02 \%$ at full output and all lower outputs. Whether you use $Z .30$ or $Z .50$ amplifiers in your Project 60 system will depend on personal preference, but they are the same size and may be used with other units in the Project 60 range equally well. SPECIFICATIONS (Z.50 units are inter-
changeable with $Z .30$ s in all applications). Power Outputs
$\mathbf{2 . 3 0} 15$ watts R.M.S. into 8 ohms using 35 volts: 20 watts R.M.S. into 30 oms using 30 volts.
Z.50 40 watts R.M.S. into 3 ohms using 40 volts: 30 watts R.M.S. into 8 ohms using 50 volts.
Frequency response: 30 to $300.000 \mathrm{~Hz} \pm 1 \mathrm{~dB}$.
Distortion: $0.02 \%$ into 80 hms .
Signal to noise ratio: better than 70 dB unweighted. Input sensitivity: 250 mV into 100 Kohms .
For speakers from 3 to 15 ohms impedance.
Size: $14 \times 80 \times 57 \mathrm{~mm}$.
2.30

Built, tested and guaranteed with circuits and instructions manual.
2.50
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tions manual.
$\mathbf{~} 5.48$

## Power Supply Units

Designed special for use with the Project 60 system of your choice. Use PZ. 5 for normal Z. 30 assemblies and PZ. 6 where a stabilised supply is essential.
PZ.5 30 volts unstabilised $£ 4.98$ PZ. 635 volts stabilised $£ 7.98$ PZ. 845 volts stabilised (/ess mains transformer) £7.98 PZ. 8 mains transformer $£ 5.98$

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If within 3 months of purchasing Project 60 modules direct/y from us. you are dissatisfied with them, we will refund yourmoney at once. Each module is guaranteed to work perfectly and should any defect arise in normal use we will service it at once and without any cost to you whatsoever provided that it is returned to us within 2 years of the purchase date. There will be a small charge for service thereafter. No charge for postage by surface mail. Air-mail charged at cost.

## Project 60 Stereo F.M. Tuner



The phase lock loop principle was used for receiving signals from space craft because of its vastly improved signal to noise ratio. Now. Sinclair have applied the principle to an F.M. tuner with fantastically good results. Other original features include varicap diode tuning. printed circuit coils, an I.C. in the specially designed stereo decoder and squelch circuit for silent tuning between stations. Good reception is possible in diffivult areas. and often a few inches of wire are enough for an aerial. In terms of a high fidelity this tuner has a lower level of distortion than any other tuner we know. Stereo broadcasts are received automatically as the tuning control is rotated, a panel indicator lighting up as the stereo signal is tuned in. This tuner can also be used to advantage with any other high fidelity system.
SPECIFICATIONS—Number of transistors: 16 plus 20 in I.C. Tuning range: 87.5 to 108 MHz , Capture ratio: 1.5 dB . Sensitivity: $2 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ for 30dB quieting: $7 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ for lock-in over full deviation. Squelch level: $20 \mu$ V. A.F.C. range: $\pm 200 \mathrm{KHz}$. Signal to noise ratio: $>65 \mathrm{~dB}$. Audio frequency response: $10 \mathrm{~Hz}-15 \mathrm{KHz}$ ( $\pm 1 \mathrm{~dB}$ ). Total harmonic distortion: $0.15 \%$ for $30 \%$ modulation. Stereo decoder operating level: $2 \mu \mathrm{~V}$. Cross talk: 40 dB . Output voltage: $2 \times 150 \mathrm{mV}$ R.M.S. Operating voltage: $25-30 \mathrm{VDC}$. Indicators : Power on/tuning/stereo.

Size: $93 \times 40 \times 207 \mathrm{~mm}$.
Built and tested. Post free.
£25

## Stereo 60 Pre-amp/control unit <br> 

Designed for Project 60 range but suitable for use with any high quality power amplifier. Again silicon epitaxial planar transistors are used throughout, achieving a really high signal-to-noise ratio and excellent tracking between channels. Input selection is by means of push buttons and accurate equalisation is provided for all the usual inputs.
SPECIFICATIONS-Input sensitivities: Radio - up to 3 mV . Mag. p.u. 3 mV : correct to R.I.A.A curve $\pm 1 \mathrm{~dB}: 20$ to 25.000 Hz . Ceramic p.u. - up to 3 mV : Aux-up to 3 mV . Output: 250 mV . Signal to noise ratio: better than 70 dB . Channel matching: within 1dB. Tone controls: TREBLE +15 to -15 dB at 10 KHz : BASS +15 to -15 dB at 100 Hz . Front panel: : brushed aluminium with black knobs and controls, Size : $66 \times 40 \times 207 \mathrm{~mm} . £ 9.98$
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## A.F.U. High \& Low Pass Filter Unit



For use between Stereo 60 unit and two $Z .30$ s or $Z .50 \mathrm{~s}$. and is easily mounted. It is unique in that the cut-off frequencies are continuously variable, and as attenuation in the rejected band is rapid ( $12 \mathrm{~dB} / o c t a v e$ ). there is less loss of the wanted signal than has previously been possible. Amplitude and phase distortion are negligible. The A.F.U. is suitable for use with any other amplifier system. Two filter stages - rumble (high pass) and scratch (low pass). Supply voltage -15 to 35 V . Current - 3mA. H.F. cut-off ( -3 dB ) variable from 28 KHz to 5 KHz . L.F. cut-off ( -3 dB ) variable from 25 Hz to 100 Hz . Distortion at 1 KHz ( 35 V . supply ( $0.02 \%$ at rated £5.98 output. Size: $66 \times 40 \times 90 \mathrm{~mm}$.

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 BP91=8N7491.AN BP92 $=$ 8N7492
BP93 $=$ SN 7493 BP94- $=$ SN7494 BP95 = SN7495 BP96 $=$ BN7496 BP100 $=$ EN 74100
BP104 $=$ SN 74104 $\mathrm{BP} 104=$ SN74104
$\mathrm{BP} 105=8 \mathrm{~N} 74105$ BP10 $=8 N 74105$
BP107 $=$ EN 74107 BF110=SN74110 $\mathrm{BP11}=8 \mathrm{BN}_{2} 4111$
$\mathrm{BP} 113=\mathrm{BN} 4118$ BP118-8N74119 $\mathrm{BP} 119=\mathrm{BN} 74119$
$\mathrm{BP} 121=\mathrm{BN} 74121$ BP1 $=8 N 74121$
BP145 $=8 N 74145$ $\mathrm{BP} 150=8 \mathrm{~F} 74180$ BP151=8N74151 BP153 $=$ SN7 74169
BP154
SN74154 BP154-8N74154
BP155- 8 N 74155 BP158 =8N74156 BP160 = GN74160 BP161-SN74161
BP164 $=$ SN 74184 $\mathrm{BP} 164=\mathrm{SN} 74164$
$\mathrm{BP} 165=\mathrm{BN} 74165$ BP165 $=8 \mathrm{ANT} 4165$
$\mathrm{BP} 181=\mathrm{SN} 74181$ BP18182 $=$ SN74182
BP1 BP190=SN74190
BP191=SN74191 BP192 $=$ GN74192
BP193 $=$ SN 74193 BP195=SN74195 BP196 $=$ SN74
BP19196 BP197 $\sin 74197$ BP198 = SN74198
BP199 $=$ SN74199

## B

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 $\mu \mathrm{A} 703 \mathrm{C}-\mu \mathrm{A} 708 \mathrm{C}$ TAA 263-
TAA 293-
TAA 350

| Case | Leads |
| :---: | :---: |
| TO-5 | 8 |
| TO-5. | 8 |
| TO-5 | 8 |
| D.I.L. | 14 |
| D.I.L. | 14 |
| TO-5. | 8 |
| D.I.L. | 14 |
| TO-5. | 10 |
| D.I.L. | 14 |
| TO-5 | 6 |
| TO-72 | 4 |
| TO-74 | 10 |
| TO5 | 8 |


| Description | 1-24 |
| :---: | :---: |
| G.P. Amp | 63p |
| OP Amp |  |
| OP Amp Direct OP | 68p |
| G.P. OP Amp Wide |  |
| Band) | 58p |
| High OP Amp | 53 p |
| High Gain OP Amp | 53p |
| Difterential comparator | 58 |
| Dual comparstor | 38] |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { High Galn 0P Amp } \\ & \text { (Protected) } \end{aligned}$ | 758 |
| R.F,-I.F. Amp | 48p |
| A.F. Amp | 70p |
| G.P. Amp | 90] |
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- Senativits 40 mp for 1 watt. OLTAGA GAM for some applica
Hignal to Moise Ratio 8edR. Frequency reaponse better
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