### Letters to the Editor

"Bide-a-Wee" Charnel House Lane Radstock

Dear OM,

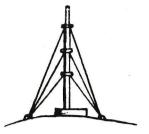
As one of the most prominent and frequent users of the old Repeater, there, we thought your readers would like to know a bit about us and our station, there. Our QTH is near the top of an old coal tip and line of sight to the Repeater there, so with 150 watts from an FT290 and linear into five stacked Slim Jims on a rotator, there, we manage to work any rare DX that comes up on the old Repeater, there.

Our brother Harry is G6QRZ and his boy Rodney hopes to get the G1QRZ call when it comes along, so we are quite a "switched on" family, HI!! You probably don't know Harry as he never says anything, but he likes to bleep up the old Repeater there, to let everybody know he's there, there! You can't mistake his call sign. It sounds just like our old cat passing wind, HI! Must go now, as we have to drive the XYL to her Coven meeting.

73s there, OM. Work you further down the log, there.

Limpley Stoke. (Mr) G8QRZ

# MENDIP REPEATER NEWS



Secretary: S. Gardner G4PSP

191 Charlton Park, Midsomer Norton, Avon.

Tel: Midsomer Norton 413902

November 1983

Welcome to the latest edition of Mendip Repeater News. It is being published a little later than usual this year but we hope the inclusion of all the latest news meets with your approval. It is difficult to know just what to include in this newsletter to provide something of interest to everyone, so we hope the latest repeater update, Raynet news, membership information and topical items are worth a look.

#### AGM AGM AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Mendip Repeater Group will be held at Showerings Sports & Social Club, Shepton Mallet on Wednesday, November 16th 1983 commencing at 8.00 p.m. Admission is open to paid-up members of the group.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for the year 1983/84 are overdue NOW and arrears should be paid to the treasurer:

Mrs. L. Gardner 191, Charlton Park, Midsomer Norton, Avon.

Thank you if you have already renewed your subscription.

# CHANGE OF DETAILS

Do not forget that we can only send your newsletter to the address that you last supplied. So PLEASE inform the Secretary, as soon as possible, of any change in name, address or callsign. Please do <u>not</u> wait until your next subscription falls due.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION £2.00 LIFE MEMBERSHIP NO LONGER AVAILABLE From the numerous enquiries the committee has received, it would appear that this project has aroused great interest.

Amateur Television is currently very popular in this area on 70cms. This is not without its problems. 70cms is only wide enough for one transmission at a time, also television being of a wideband nature requires lots of effective radiated power. There are two ways to get a high ERP, one of which is to run lots of power into an omnidirectional aerial or more economically is to run a modest amount into a beam antenna. Of course you don't get anything for nothing, the price you pay for this 'gain' is that of beamwidth. A 48 element multibeam typically has a beamwidth of +/- 15 degrees. This is fine if there are only two stations wanting to exchange pictures at any one time. If you get a net of four people on at a time it figures that only two people at any one time are going to be satisfied.

Well it doesn't take much imagination to see the solution to this problem: "Lets build a repeater", I hear somebody cry....

Where do you put it though? In Australia they are lucky they have a portion of the UHF broadcast band around 540MHz so in conjunction to their 70cm band they have two 'wideband' channels ideal for the input and output of the repeater. I gather that the idea has been very successful. After a lot of hassle the British Amateur Television society has managed to negotiate with the Home Office (or is it the D of TI?) and get the agreement necessary to go ahead with the project. In this area it is hoped to construct such a repeater to be located on Bath University the same site as GB3UB (70cm RB4). The repeater will accept either AM or FM signals on the input but will relate them on the output as vestigial sideband AM (the same as broadcast TV). There is, at the moment, considerable debate (?) between the AM v FM fraternities. We have decided to leave the option open on the input but to make the output AM so you can just put a simple converter in front of the domestic Television set. All you need then is a small beam aerial pointing at the repeater. Don't forget you can have about 18db of aerial gain and yet be a third of the size of your average TV aerial.

To access UT you will be required to send it a minimum of five seconds of video. This is to discourage phantom blipping (or should it be phantom flashers?!) The repeater will decide whether the signal is AM or FM, that it is producing a signal at the receiver output terminals of 1 volt

pk pk (within 15%), that the ratio of sync pulses to picture information is 30:70 and that the line and field frequency within 3% or so of the normal requirements. Quite a tall order you may think but from tests virtually anything that will lock a picture monitor will be passed. After all there is not much point in letting garbage through if there is no way in identifying where its come from!

Once the repeater is happy with your signals it will turn its output transmitter on and relay the signal without timeout. Every 7½ minutes an electronic caption will be superimposed on the though video and a morse code callsign will be put over the through audio to satisfy the licence requirements. When the input signal drops an electronic test card will be displayed for five minutes before the repeater closes down. In beacon mode the test card and 400hz test tone will be transmitted for 30s every  $7\frac{1}{2}$  minutes.

Looking towards the future it is hoped to have a Teletext type of news service on the repeater of club activities and mini ad's. Alternately it may be possible to make high quality test signals available to facilitate setting equipment up.

It is hoped to have 'UT on the air within 4-6 months after the licence arrives.

Hope to see you on 'UT.

Ian Parker G8XZD.

8

# STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

We have received communication from the repeater management committee stating that phase one of TV repeaters should be licenced by the D of T&I by the end of the year!

# Mendip Repeater Group Technical Manager's Report.

Generally all repeaters are working well and to survive the long operating hours encountered in the recent lift conditions, they cannot be in bad shape.

GB3WR still suffers from the occasional "rusty bolt" noises on its input which seems to be very dependent upon relative humidity, wind speed and direction. Recently, however, a portable or, dare I say it, a static mobile was heard operating on a simplex channel whilst located near to the WR site. The only problem was that he was running a synthesized transceiver which radiated rather bad noise sidebands, a common problem, which gave the impression to users of WR that its receiver had gone deaf. So a point to watch, unless you are operating through WR, please try and avoid operating on

simplex channels when parked close to WR, ie. within a couple of miles, unless you are confident that the noise sidebands of your transmitter are at least 80 dB down on carrier power. (Trio 2400's and 2500's seem to be particularly noisy on transmit, and there are other rogues!)

We still suffer the odd commercial intermodulation products on RØ input which are irritating both to users and to me. It is almost impossible to nail these down even with high technology equipment, mainly because of the intermittent nature of the transmissions and that more than one or two transmitters need to be on at once. On a primary radio transmitter site surrounded with other sites within 5 miles this is equally a problem to the professional services, although more so to us since we work at receiver sensitivities some lOdB better than theirs.

GB3VS is the first of the group's repeaters to be fitted with the genuine Mendip Logic and the WR standby logic is now almost complete. All units will be using identical logic control assemblies with individually programmed E-Proms. Icarus, G8IWV, our programming/E-Prom blowing expert has perfected the programming for all units and the latest exercise was the production of the GB3UB E-Prom.

The microprocessor and the audio summing/switching boards are, of course, identical and readily interchangeable making the whole control assembly rather "smooth".

If any clubs or groups would like a talk on the intricacies of repeaters, please do not hesitate to contact the Mendip Group to arrange an evening.

73 Chris Morcom, G3VEH, Technical Manager.

## GB3VS REPORT

After the first week VS was on air, (May 24th) several teething problems were sorted out. Since then, very little work has been done to VS. It has thus had zero "down-time" from that point on.

Activity has been low after the initial novelty wore off from the many locals and 'GWs'. I would say though, that generally speaking the level of activity can be compared with most other repeaters in the area.

The coverage does favour the Welsh side, yet they don't seem

to be too interested in VS. Coverage could be better if a more prominent location could be found. I have made an enquiry to Securicor, who own a suitable site. It is on the Quantock hills some 600ft ASL but the quoted rental for this site is £500 per year, far beyond our budget.  $\Lambda$  fact of life these days though, that for a prime site one has to pay prime fees.

Brian G4ETN.

VS Manager.

### RTTY Repeater

I have written to the Repeater Management Group (formerly RWG) for proposal forms but due to heavy commitments am presently unable to carry on further. A prominent site with good beacon/repeater logic will be required. Any ideas?

If anyone in the group wishes to pick up the threads, the Mendip Repeater Group Committee will probably be happy to let you do the hard work.

If you fancy helping in any way to get these proposals off the ground, then contact me.

Brian Smith G4ETN OTHR

## COMPUTERISATION - (or WHY DON'T I KEEP MY BIG MOUTH SHUT!)

A year or so ago, during a conversation with the Repeater Group secretary, Steve (G4PSP), I mentioned that my work was involved with computers and rather rashly suggested that if the group needed my assistance in producing address labels for the newsletter, then I might be able to help.

Soon, work began on the first task of entering the membership records into the computer. It took a few sessions working during evenings and weekends to complete this exercise.

Each computer record stores details of callsign, name, address and subscriptions paid together with the relevant dates. These are stored in callsign order. New member details are added at the end and then a simple program inserts the new records into their correct position.

The first major task was to address the October 1982 edition of the newsletter. After some thought it was decided to print a letter which included a personalised renewal notice. The address on the letter would show through a window in the envelope and avoid the need for sticky labels.

Three different letters were produced depending whether (a) the recipient needed to renew his/her subscription, (b) had paid prior to the publication of the newsletter, or (c) was a life member. The programme decided which to print by referring to the membership expiry date.

Some members have asked if they may pay their subscription by Bankers Order and in response to this, those whose subscription is now due will have the appropriate form included on their letters with this newsletter.

A number of other programmes are now available to provide print outs for the Committee.

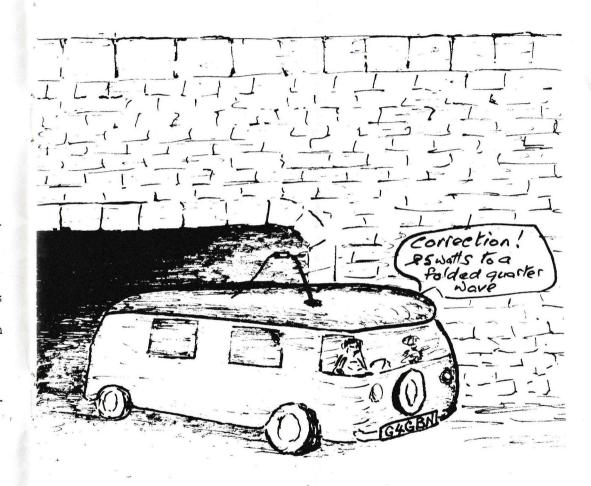
The Computer that provides this service is normally used for demonstration purposes and programme development, and is generally free during evenings and weekends. Repeater Group records are loaded on to the system when required and when all work has been completed the data is written to magnetic tape. All Repeater Group records are then deleted from the system. This not only prevents others gaining access to our records, but also makes our operation transparent to the normal users who incidentally have given their permission for this work. Members may rest assured that their names and addresses are not available to outsiders and there is definitely no plan to sell out to Readers Digest.

Whilst every effort is made to ensure that membership details are correct some errors will no doubt occur. Please let us know if your details are incorrect. Some addresses have been abbreviated to fit them in the space available. I must confess it was I who put the extra E in Bridgwater - Sorry Brian!

The computer has a 400nS bit slice processor CPU with 1 Megabyte of RAM and 132 Megabytes of disc storage. The letters are produced on a printer that will print at 600 lines per minute. One letter is printed in about 7 seconds. The list of callsigns in the newsletter is printed by a daisy wheel printer.

As time permits further programmes will be written to assist in the continued smooth running of the Repeater Group. Any comments or suggestions are welcomed.

MALCOLM STANBRIDGE G3RHU



G2BQY G3DHH	G2BRR G3ECS	G3AIP	G3BJC	G3BNF	G3COP
	CSECS				OJCOL
	GOLCD	G3F VE	G3GKA	G3GKC	G3GOW
G3IBK	G3IDA	G31ES	G3IJU	G3JEP	G3JMY
G3KSK	G3LJD	<b>G3LNW</b>	G3MIZ	G3MVA	G3NET
G3NXU	G3OSH	G3PYF	<b>G3RHU</b>	<b>G3RYC</b>	G3SJI
G3SXY	G3TKF	G3TSK	G3TYJ	G3UCC	G3UGR
G3UTO	G3UUR	<b>G3VEH</b>	G3VJJ	G3WRV	G3XBW
G3XFW	G3XGY	G3XIT	G3YBY	G3YDC	G3YHV
G3YPL	G3YRM	G3YWG	G3ZKI	G3ZUQ	G3ZUW
G4AJD	G4ATP	G4AUN	G4AYD	G4BSF	G4BYJ
G4CJZ	G4DKS	G4ELW	G4ETN	G4EVI	G4FSL
	G4GBN	G4GTD	G4HHL	G4HTJ	G4HWD
G4IQX	G4IXP	G4JBG	G4JBH	G4JBW	G4JGC
G4JQD	G4JQP	G4JSN	G4JTM	G4JZL	G4KBN
G4KLG		G4KPT	G4LAF	G4LAW	G4LDR
G4LJZ	G4LMO	G4LYP	G4MCE	G4MQX	G4MYR
G4NCJ	G4NIC	G4NQQ	G4NUJ	G4NXG	G40AG
G40EC	G4OFF	G4OFH	G4OJA	G4OJH	G4OJI
G4ONS	G4OTJ	G40VJ	G40WH	G40XR	G4OXY
G4OZH	G4PDG	G4PEM		G4PHZ	G4PII
					G4RKY
					G4SFL
					G4TBO
					G4TSS
					G4USO
					G6ARN
					G6DVF
					G6EIY
					G6FXH
					G6GSO
	G6ННН	G6HII	G6HIQ	G6HJE	G6HKT
	G6HOR	G6HQX	G6HRQ	G6HRV	G6HRX
					G6IAV
G6IDG	G6IDX	G6IEY	G61KR	G6INH	G6IQF
			G6JKA	G6JNB	G6JNS
					G6LWW
G6LYX	G6LZL	G6LZT	G6MBJ	G6MGJ	G6MGO
	G3KSK G3NXU G3SXY G3UTO G3XFW G3YPL G4AJD G4CJZ G4FVW G4IQX G4JQD G4KLG G4UZ G4OEC G4ONS G4OZH G4PLY G4RNT G4TIX G4TIX G4TIX G4TIX G6EAQ G6EAQ G6EAQ G6EAQ G6HEC G6HN G6HTZ	G3KSK G3LJD G3NXU G3OSH G3SXY G3TKF G3UTO G3UUR G3XFW G3XGY G3YPL G3YRM G4AJD G4ATP G4CJZ G4DKS G4FVW G4GBN G4IQX G4IXP G4JQD G4JQP G4KLG G4KNE G4LJZ G4LMO G4NCJ G4NIC G4OEC G4OFF G4ONS G4OTJ G4OZH G4PDG G4PLY G4PSP G4RNT G4RRI G4STH G4SUH G4TIX G4TKS G4UFV G4UGT G5YQ G6AEC G6ASO G6ASP G6EAQ G6EDJ G6ETL G6EWX G6GGU G6GNG G6HEC G6HHH G6HN G6HOR G6HTZ G6HWO G6IDG G6IDX G6IVU G6JGR G6KPD G6KTW	G3KSK G3LJD G3LNW G3NXU G3OSH G3PYF G3SXY G3TKF G3TSK G3UTO G3UUR G3VEH G3XFW G3XGY G3XIT G3YPL G3YRM G3YWG G4AJD G4ATP G4AUN G4CJZ G4DKS G4ELW G4FVW G4GBN G4GTD G4IQX G4IXP G4JBG G4JQD G4JQP G4JSN G4KLG G4KNE G4KPT G4LJZ G4LMO G4LYP G4NCJ G4NIC G4NQQ G4OEC G4OFF G4OFH G4ONS G4OTJ G4OVJ G4OZH G4PDG G4PEM G4PLY G4PSP G4PYN G4RNT G4RRI G4RSH G4STH G4SUH G4SXX G4TIX G4TKS G4TLP G4UFV G4UGT G4UHN G5YQ G6AEC G6AFL G6ASO G6ASP G6AWT G5YQ G6AEC G6AFL G6ASO G6ASP G6AWT G6EAQ G6EDJ G6EGU G6ETL G6EWX G6FID G6GGU G6GNG G6GNR G6HEC G6HHH G6HII G6HN G6HOR G6HQX G6HTZ G6HWO G6HWS G6IDG G6IDX G6IEY G6IVU G6JGR G6JJC G6KPD G6KTW G6LRK	G3KSK G3LJD G3LNW G3MIZ G3NXU G3OSH G3PYF G3RHU G3SXY G3TKF G3TSK G3TYJ G3UTO G3UUR G3VEH G3VJJ G3XFW G3XGY G3XIT G3YBY G3YPL G3YRM G3YWG G3ZKI G4AJD G4ATP G4AUN G4AYD G4CJZ G4DKS G4ELW G4ETN G4FVW G4GBN G4GTD G4HHL G4IQX G4IXP G4JBG G4JBH G4JQD G4JQP G4JSN G4JTM G4KLG G4KNE G4KPT G4LAF G4LJZ G4LMO G4LYP G4MCE G4NCJ G4NIC G4NQQ G4NUJ G4OEC G4OFF G4OFH G4OJA G4ONS G4OTJ G4OVJ G4OWH G4OZH G4PDG G4PEM G4PFL G4PLY G4PSP G4PYN G4RAB G4RNT G4RRI G4RSH G4RZY G4STH G4SUH G4SXX G4SZB G4TIX G4TKS G4TLP G4TRL G4UFV G4UGT G4UHN G4UKF G5YQ G6AEC G6AFL G6AGL G6ASO G6ASP G6AWT G6DEN G6EAQ G6EDJ G6EGU G6EHD G6ETL G6EWX G6FID G6FIS G6GGU G6GNG G6GNR G6GPI G6HCC G6HHH G6HII G6HIQ G6HN G6HOR G6HQX G6HRQ G6HTZ G6HWO G6HWS G6HYU G6IDG G6IDX G6IEY G6IKR G6IVU G6JGR G6JJC G6JKA	G3KSK         G3LJD         G3LNW         G3MIZ         G3MVA           G3NXU         G3OSH         G3PYF         G3RHU         G3RYC           G3SXY         G3TKF         G3TSK         G3TYJ         G3UCC           G3UTO         G3UUR         G3VEH         G3VJJ         G3WRV           G3XFW         G3XGY         G3XIT         G3YBY         G3YDC           G3YPL         G3YRM         G3YWG         G3ZKI         G3ZUQ           G4AJD         G4ATP         G4AUN         G4AYD         G4BSF           G4CJZ         G4DKS         G4ELW         G4ETN         G4EVI           G4FVW         G4GBN         G4GTD         G4HHL         G4HTJ           G4IQX         G4IXP         G4JBH         G4JBW           G4JQD         G4JSN         G4JTM         G4JZL           G4KLG         G4KNE         G4KPT         G4LAF         G4LAW           G4LJZ         G4KNE         G4KPT         G4LAF         G4LAW           G4LJZ         G4KNE         G4KPT         G4LAF         G4LAW           G4NCJ         G4NQQ         G4NUJ         G4NXG           G4OEC         G4OFF         G4OFH         G4OJA

7.

G6MHB	G6MJG	G6MSO	G6NIR	G6NQE	G6NQQ	G6NRR
G6NRS	G6NVR	G6NZF	G60EQ	G6PET	G6PJS	G6PJT
G6PNW	G6POW	G6PPU	G6PTU	G6PWN	G6PZB	G6RKO
G6RPJ	G6RQP	G6RRY	G6RSB	G6RZD	G6RZE	G6SCO
G6SNY	G6SV	G6SVA	G6SVR	G6SWN	G6SYM	G6SZX
G6TAH	G6TAL	G6TBB	G6TEI	G6TKR	G6TKT	G6TUY
G6TWA	G6UAC	G6UMC	G6UNN	G6USC	G6UVL	G6VAH
G6VAR	G6VHY	G6VXI	G6WJF	G6WLU	G6WLX	G6WVS
G6WZA	G6XFC	G6XNQ	G6YDX	G6YFX	G6YPI	G6YWK
G6ZDR	G6ZIM	G6ZJB	G6ZLX	G6ZOD	G6ZOG	G6ZPG
G6ZPJ	G6ZRR	G6ZYK	G6ZZQ	G8APB	G8ARH	G8BCH
G8BIR	G8BMR	G8CPF	G8DBP	G8DJW	G8DKC	G8DLR
G8DON	G8DRK	G8EQL	G8FAS	G8FC	G8FTV	G8GFZ
G8GUA	G8GYU	G8HNM	G8HUH	G8HVY	G8IGB	G8IOJ
G8IUF	G8IWV	G8IZZ	G8JAR	G8KBQ	G8KKA	G8KNN
G8LGC	G8LRB	G8MYN	G8MZI	G8NJZ	G8NMU	G8NNU
G8NQO	G8OEU	G80QG	G8OTA	G8OUG	G8PQA	G8PVG
G8RHO	G8SPC	G8SRH	G8SUW	G8TIH	G8TJF	G8TOF
G8TVQ	G8UGY	G8UTB	G8UXY	G8VDF	G8VFR	G8VGG
G8VGI	G8VOE	G8VOF	G8WBV	G8WJJ	G8WKK	G8WKL
G8WLV	G8WRC	G8WVR	G8XFS	G8XIM	G8XTE	G8XYS
G8XZD	G8YCS	G8YML	G8YMM	G8YNW	G8YWQ	G8ZDR
G8ZIS	G8Z0E	G8ZQF	G8ZRN	G8ZRO	G8ZSP	G8ZVK
G8ZYD	GW 2DPD	GW2FWD	GW3LAD	GW3PCK	GW3TSH	GW3YTJ
GW3ZFG	GW4BTU	GW4HA	GW4HGY	GW4ISF	GW4KYM	GW4NIJ
GW 40CN	GW4OKI	GW4PCJ	GW4POA	GW4SUE	GW4SYO	GW4TJQ
GW4TUL	GW4VAU	GW6ADM	GW6BWX	GW6CMP	GW6CTO	GW6GXC
GW 6 HAW	GW6HHO	GW61SF	GW6JBP	GW6JCD	GW6JQU	GW6LDX
GW6MOB	GW6MWN	GW6NQU	GW6PUT	GW6SKV	GW6VLA	GW6VRN
GW6YNV	GW6ZJX	GW6ZMN	GW6ZTG	GW8CQK	GW8DGM	GW8HEZ
GW8PTS	GW8TQD	GW8UXI	GW8UXK			

MRS J.JONES
MR L.DALBY
MR G.WHITE
MR R.WALSH
MR J.GOODWAY

MR R.WARE
MR A.RUSSELL
MRS J.FLETCHER
MR D.SHIELDS



FREE TO NEW MEMBERS

EXTRA'S 35p each

#### T.V. ON 23CMS

Given a bit of luck, the Group's new TELEVISION REPEATER - GB3UT - will be on the air very early in 1984 - so let's discuss our equipment needs (in order to get together a list in time for December 25th).

#### WORKING T.V. ON 70CMS

While it tends to be held in awe as "Highly Technical" by outsiders, a curious feature of current amateur T.V. practice (until now a well kept secret known only to close initiates) is that practical amateur T.V. is really a "PIECE OF .....": given the availability of a telly for reception and the variety of kit in every (amateur) home besides which very little else is needed.

The perceived main obstacle is in the availability of a video source but this is needed only for transmissions! — other sources of video apart from cameras (got for under £50 each or picked up in the street cum 1984) can be video games, pattern generators, old VTR's, Teletext, computer text and graphics (ZX81's now £29.95) and even rebroadcast IBA and BBC transmissions!!!

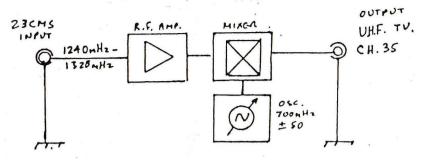
While you reach for your 1983 Call Book, I am bound to point out that (for the time being) our accustomed—"BIG-BROTHER" amateur "telegraphy" restrictions on T.V. third party traffic, content, advertising and naughty bits appear to be lifted!

(See News Flash below)

It cannot be overstressed how very much easier it is to receive 70cms amateur pictures (Channel 17) on a modestic T.V. set than say contemporary amateur speech traffic on an ordinary domestic radio. Likewise lv p-p standard level amateur colour or mono A5 video modulation is much easier to run on an existing RF power output stage than narrow band speech FM/SSB/AM.

#### REPEATER T.V. ON 23CMS

To start with all you will need is a telly, a 23cms (Group F?) aerial on a fixed bearing towards the Bath University site and a relatively simple down-converter (reminiscent to old-timers of the Band III to Band I T.V. converters of the middle to late 50's).



Homebrew cost: £20.00 approx.

Designs and kits will I'm sure be appearing here and elsewhere in the "Hobby Press" in due course.

During my career as a "B Licensee" on the VHF Bands, I've grown to accept precision crystal controlled receiving and transmitting systems as inevitable. Almost had I forgotten the simplicity of construction and delight in the use of ...... Yes folks! ..... after 10 years or more absence from the scene the "Generally Amateur built STATION VFO".

With transmitters and receivers, the broad bandwidth of T.V. transmission (6 MHz wide) as against speech (say 0.006MHz) and the 85MHz Bandwidth of 23cms means a sensible reduction of essential frequency stability by a factor of 1000 to 1 - if you can build a VFO for Medium Wave or Top Band (1.8MHz) with sufficient stability to work AM (1 part in 105) you should have no problem building VFO's for 23cms T.V. This is important since at 23cms TV this can make for cheap and simple transmitters (much needed at current £'s per dB gain per device Watt). The inappropriateness of the existing "World Wide Business" of consumer amateur product marketing will allow space for British small firms and homebrew for 23cms T.V. for many years to come. While resistance will be inevitable from some quarters - those able to adopt new criteria and embrace changing circumstances will welcome such changes as improvements - taking to them as they say "like a rubber duck to 2 metres".

If you would like to know more about local ATV activity - listen (and even call) on 144.750MHz - weekends are best.

Finally don't take operation on 23cms T.V. too much for granted, the effectiveness of transmissions are degraded by up to 30dB (1000 to 1 again) for a start just because they

are broad band and not narrow band phone! Knock off another 20dB for reciprocal frequency dependent propagation and system losses compared with more familiar LF bands such as 2m, but add 15dB for improved aerial potential and you should be as they say in the picture.

H.D. O'Tani G8OTA - BATC.

#### NEWSFLASH

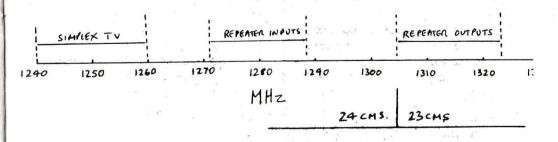
Our Masters have finally learnt that ATV is not "Amateur Telegraphy Within The Meaning Of The Act" !!

Much fluid taking may here be enjoyed anticipating the kind of drivel we are likely to be made to comply with in the future .....eq:

"Transmissions of visual images by means of Radio Frequency Generating Apparatus for the production of visual images of a personal or private nature concerning either party but such transmissions of visual images not to include complete or part thereof of private parts of manifestly personal nature made in whole or in part for the benefit of persons other than the licensee of a kind normally viewed in other licensed television image broadcasting or made available for public sale or hire on image transcription apparatus as defined in para ....."

23CMS BAND PLAN:

#### 23OMS BAND PLAN:



#### MENDIP RAYNET GROUP 005

Mendip Raynet Group covers the area of the Mendips and surrounding countryside. The group at present comprises 18 members, a number of whom have been active since the inception of the group.

The present controller of the group, Trevor, G80EU, has recently indicated that he wishes to relinquish his post and I have been nominated to fill that post. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking him for the work that he has done.

Recently the group have been increasingly active, with a mobile exercise, static exercises, a practice emergency callout by Avon and Somerset Constabulary and an all night exercise with the help of Coleford Scouts. A treasure hunt is planned for Sunday 30th October and a further exercise is planned with the Somerset County Emergency Officer and the other Somerset Raynet Groups on November 6th. A meeting of the group is being planned for later in the month when we hope that all members will take the chance to discuss new ideas for the efficient operation of Raynet in the area (and, of course, to down a couple of pints in, hopefully, good company). Regular meetings are also held on-air normally on the second and last Tuesdays of each month at 8 p.m. on 144.825 MHz.

It is thought by some amateurs that Raynet is a closed club, or that a high level of expertise is required for participation. This is not my experience and every effort is made in this area and I am sure in other areas to welcome new members, whoever they are.

I would appeal to anyone who would like to join Raynet to contact either myself or the Deputy Controller, Peter, G4JQP, for details. I may also be contacted via Downside School Amateur Radio Club G8WKL, QTHR. Should anyone from outside our area require information, I will put them in touch with the relevant Controller.

Malcolm Daniels, G8WKK.

# Dedicated to the Keepers of the W.R. Repeater

Chipping Sodbury's on the map, our John put it there, It came about by accident, when his friends came on the air. He listened and he pondered how, to make his voice heard (Not just anyhow)

And so he took the R.A. Test, lo and behold, with answers best, He found that he could have a go, as long as he answered to MGO.

He then made friends with RQP, and many others as you will see, Our Steve pops up both mobile and fixed, with antenna system a little mixed,

Please swing your beams he shouts aloud, and of Low Power he's very proud,

To boast that just a milliwatt is all he needs for the power he's got.

The YPL's computerised, and LYX confused, and KYM's so happy, he keeps us all amused,

While GVH and GNG are chatting there with SZB, and OFF with WKK.

Put right the world as it is today, the SZB says shout HOORAY, HWS is back to stay,

OJH, that wicked boy enjoys to wind up as a ploy

He teases men and women too, so beware my friends lest he look at you.

But seriously they're a happy lot who won't let our repeater go to pot,

So pay your dues, and without a care, as long as you want it, W.R. will be there.

DEE, GW4VAU