

UPDATE - 325

JULY - AUGUST

WIRRAL AND DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

FROM THE CHAIRMAN....

WELCOME TO ANOTHER EDITION OF 'UPDATE 325' AND IN PARTICULAR WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS. NEIL HAS LISTED OUR IMMEDIATE CALENDAR IN THIS ISSUE AND IN PARTICULAR COULD YOU PLEASE NOTE OUR ANNUAL BARBECUE TO BE HELD IN THE USUAL SPOT ON HESMALL SHORE, THIS COMING WEDNESDAY THE 4TH JULY. LISTEN 325 5PM ONWARDS.

LET'S SEE HOW MANY OF THE CLUB SHIRTS ARE ON VIEW !!

AS PART OF OUR PROPOSED PROGRAMME WE HAVE ARRANGED A TALK ON 'MICROWAVES' FROM MIKE DIXON G3PFR ON JULY 11TH. THIS PROMISES TO BE A HIGH QUALITY, ILLUSTRATED TALK ON 23CMS AND BEYOND SO DON'T MISS ANOTHER OF OUR HIGH-TECH TALKS!!

PHIL G6SNO IS NOW INTO THE FINAL STAGES OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR VHF MFD ON 7/8TH JULY AND WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM ANYONE ELSE WISHING TO HELP. IT LOOKS LIKE BEING A RECORD TURN-OUT AND PROMISES TO FURTHER ESTABLISH THE "WIRRAL & DISTRICT" AS A LEADING FORCE IN CONTEST ACTIVITY THIS YEAR.

..... 73'S

GDRISH G6NNK

IT REALLY DID HAPPEN !!

A LOCAL RADIO HAM FINALLY MET HIS XYL THE OTHER DAY. AFTER SUFFERING WEEKS OF HIM TWEAKING UP HIS FEET'S IN BED THE FINAL AGONY HAPPENED....

ANDREA BY THE SAD MAILING OF HER 20G CARD (BANK CARPET) OUR DEDICATED RADIO HAM WAS FOUND STARKERS. TFI IN HAND, TWEAKING THE RIG. THE PHONE LINES HAVE NOW BEEN DRX'D (BUT NOT QRT'D)

APPEAL FROM THE CHAIRMAN (IF THAT'S POSSIBLE)

WOULD THE KINDLY RADIO HAM WHO BOUGHT THE PFD / FEANER/MIC AT THE RADIO CLUB JULY (SORRY - 50PLUS EQUIPMENT) SALE BE INTERESTED IN DEFENDING IT TO G6NNK AS HE NOW HAS A POCKET PHONE TO THAT IS SCREWDRY DEAF AND DUMB !!



CLUB CALENDER JULY - AUGUST	
JULY 4TH...	BARBECUE LOWER HESMALL... 8.5.0.P. FRANK G4DGO 33P 9623
JULY 7/8TH	VHF MFD CONTEST CONTACT..... PHIL G6SNO
JULY 11TH...	MICROWAVES MIKE DIXON G3PFR
JULY 15TH...	3RD SUNDAY OF HUNT 2.30PM HESMALL LAY-BY
JULY 18TH...	DRINK & WAFFLE THE GREEN LODGE, HOVLANE
JULY 25TH...	(REVENGE) OF HUNT THE G3PFR GARDEN
AUG 1ST...	DRINK & WAFFLE BASSET HOUSE THINGMALL
AUG 4TH...	432 HZ QRP CONTEST
AUG 5TH...	14% HZ LOW PWR "
AUG 8TH	POLICE RADIO HISTORY JOE McLAUGHLIN... G5WNR
AUG 12TH...	4TH SUNDAY OF HUNT 2.30PM HESMALL LAY-BY
AUG 15TH...	DRINK & WAFFLE THE WHEATHEAF HESS
AUG 19TH...	12% CONTEST CONTACT..... PHIL G6SNO
AUG 22ND...	DOUBLE GEAR SALE
AUG 24TH...	PRESTON RALLY LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY
AUG 27TH...	8 AM SCOW BOATS TECHNICAL HOUSE

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY

This year seems to have flown by already, and it hardly feels like its been nearly five months since I've put pen to paper for my slot in the mag. However, we have been fortunate, so far, in that we have had no problems with the calendar of club events. I hope that you have been to each one and found them of interest. Right now, we are starting to compile the events for later in the year, i.e. October to January. If you have any suggestions for topics or speakers, then please let us know as soon as possible. Remember, it's your club. The only way to have on what you want to see is to tell us what that is, and we will do our best to arrange it - but don't let us down by not turning up!

As I said, time has flown, and helping to keep it that way was not just the scheduled activities on Wednesday nights, but also weekend activities such as contests and Sunday D.F. Hunts. On top of this, March took us to Chester on two occasions. First was the sale of secondhand FMR equipment (mainly Pye) at Chester Radio Society. The second time was to the Queen Hotel to one of the RSGS's regional Membership & Representation Committee meetings, where members could members of the Committee and other Society officials and attend a questions and answers session. I thought it was very good, and I was very interested to hear some of the backgrounds, and frustrations, to the stories and news that come out of RSGS HQ. Some of the people there had come quite a long way, and I was rather disappointed at the turn-out from our club. Some very good questions were put to the RSGS, and they had good answers. However, a number of the questions could have been answered by reference to books, magazines (especially RadCom) etc., or through asking Area reps. or club secretaries, both of whom usually have the information close at hand. This was an excellent opportunity to take grass-roots amateur radio straight to the people at the top who represent us.

April took us to Southport for another NARSA rally at Pontins. Our thanks go to the members who took part in the planning, building and manning of the stand. It is still a good rally, and was better organized this year, perhaps due to Peter, G6CCE, being on their Committee. It is a pity that certain dealers deliberately organized a rally for dealers (i.e. to the exclusion of club stands and flea-markets) on the same day. I'll leave you to work out where the balance should lie, that would produce a true picture of a genuine amateur radio rally. You might also tell your views to the proprietor the next time you visit a dealer or espousium- particularly if he is in any doubt. Anyway, I certainly met a lot of people - many of whom I had not seen for a while - and I'm sure you did too. It also provided me with the contacts for a couple of good club meetings. April 18th. was world amateur radio day, and we marked the occasion by putting on an M.F. Club station at Irby instead of the scheduled DAW

May took us to Chester again, this time for the first round of the inter-club quiz with Chester A.R.S. Our team members were Phil, G6SNO, Dennis G7UWR, Steve G6TCC, Paul G6JJP and Peter G6KIQ. Although Chester won this time, an excellent evening was had by all. The end of May saw quite a few teams running around the Wirral in order to find the "Fox" of the practice D.F. hunt. This time it was 'SNO and 'CGJ in Arno Lane, Oxton. The first of this years Sunday DF hunts had been held ten days earlier. The second Sunday DF hunt and the Eileen Medley DF hunt were held in June.

This has just been a quick run through the events of the past few months, without even mentioning the regular club nights, or the contest activity. However, if you've been coming along, then you know just good these were, and how successful our contest entries have been, wont you ? What's this - you dont? Don't worry ! There is an easy solution- just turn up. Remember IT'S YOUR CLUB - SUPPORT IT.

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WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY.

APRIL 18th WAS CELEBRATED BY PUTTING ON HF STATION AT THE CLUB AT 1037 AND WORKING 30 METRES, THE FIRST TIME THIS HAS BEEN DONE.

IN THE BEANS ABOVE LTD.

NEVILLE 6602, TIM 6604, VIC 6605, PETER 6603.
MIL 6606, SUSAN 6610, AND PHIL 6610 OPERATING.

RAYNET

As Wirral Raynet members will know, the next meeting takes place on Thursday, 5th July, 7.30 pm. at the YMCA in Birkenhead. The item for discussion will be the WIRRAL MARATHON on July 15th. This has now seen a change of route and so there will be a lot to discuss, as the event is close at hand. The event will also require a large number of RAYNET members in attendance, and anyone who is interested in helping with this, or with RAYNET in any way, is particularly welcome to come along to this or any other Raynet meeting. Therefore, if you feel that you may be able to help in any way then come to the meeting on the 5th or have a word the Group Controller, who is Alan Smith, G9EPP.

Further events taking place later in the year include the "Astra Stages" car rally at Vauxhall's factory on Bank Holiday Monday, and provisionally, the Lashard RAC Rally in November.

Some of the annual subscriptions to the Group are still overdue, and the treasurer would welcome these asap. He is Mike G9HMD.

The record of RAYNET memberships is now being computerised, on the RSGB computer, and this has led to the introduction of a redesigned application or renewal card, and the procedure has changed for the renewal of Raynet ID cards as well. All renewals are now dealt with by the Group Controller, or his designated Membership Officer, in the area for which you live - irrespective of whether you are a member of the local group or not. The Membership Officer for Wirral Raynet is Gerry Scott, G8TRY.

Don't forget - Meetings are 1st Thursdays in each month, at 7.30 pm. and NET NIGHTS are on the 10th, 20th, and 30th of each month, 8pm. on 88.

LOUIS VARNEY - G5 HV

SUNDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER

COLWYN BAY

The Conwy Valley Amateur Radio Club have written, inviting our club, amongst others in the North-West and Wales, to join them for the visit of Louis Varney - of G5RV fame - to Colwyn Bay.

This is a unique opportunity, possibly never to be repeated in the North West, to hear and meet one of the world's acknowledged experts on antenna design and associated equipment. The universally popular "G5RV" being but one of his many contributions to amateur radio.

Accordingly, they have made this offer to other Clubs, and have booked the Norwest Holist Suite in the new Leisure Centre at Kirias Park, Colwyn Bay, for Sunday, 2nd. September, 1984, at 3.00pm.

Tickets will be available from 11th June on a first-come-first-served basis, and must be booked and paid for by 17th August. The cost is just £1.50. The charge is to cover the fairly heavy incidentals incurred, eg. travel 666 miles return, hotel, hire of hall etc.

Subject to demand, it may be possible for us to arrange transport via Bob or Steve if they are willing, and it would also make for a nice day out for the rest of the family.

If you want to go, then please contact Gerry Scott, G8TRY, who will act as liaison.

MEDIEVAL BANQUET - RUTHIN CASTLE - SATURDAY 25th AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY.

Steve, G9TCC, is proposing to make the above outing. Tickets are £12.50 for the banquet, and Steve is proposing to throw-in free travel, at his expense, on his bus. To make the booking, he must know who wants to go RIGHT AWAY, or else it may be too late for this date. All bookings or enquiries and bookings direct to Steve. Phone 648 1805.

SERIAL TRANSMISSION OF DIGITAL DATA

SERIAL REPRESENTATION OF DATA — THE START/STOP (ASYNCHRONOUS) METHOD

Data characters in a computer system are represented by a data code, each element of which consists of a group of bits (binary digits) each one of which can take the value 1 or 0. The group of bits is called a word or byte. The object of serial data transmission is to send these bytes from point to point along a single line or channel.

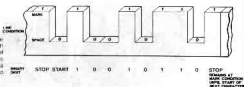
The method used is to define successive short intervals of time as representing successive bits in the byte, as in Figure 1. Two possible conditions, termed "mark" and "space" (from telegraph terminology), are imposed on the line, by the transmitting terminal to represent binary 1 and 0 respectively, if the receiving terminal samples the line at the same intervals starting at the same time. It will be able to recreate the byte at the receiving end (note that we have used the word "terminal" to designate either end of the line, in practice the "terminal" at one end is often the computer).

To allow the receiver to start its sampling at the correct instant, the transmitter always reverts to a mark condition for at least one interval at the end of each byte and always goes to a space condition for one interval before starting to send the next byte, as in Figure 2.

The eight time intervals have now been increased to ten. There is always a transition from mark to space at the start of the interval, zero and this is used by the receiver to indicate that it must start sampling at the interval one. After this, the receiver continues to sample until the interval eight whereupon it resets itself and waits until it sees another transition from mark to space. The intervals zero and nine are called respectively the "start bit" and "stop bit". They do not convey data but serve merely to provide an unambiguous indication that a byte is about to be received. The complete sequence is often referred to as a 10-bit character of 10 bit characters. At low speeds two "stop bits" are often used, resulting in an 11 bit character.

To ensure correct operation, the time intervals used by transmitting and receiving terminals must obviously be the same. The transmitting and receiving rates, usually expressed in bits per second (bps) are controlled by internal timing devices, termed "clocks", in the two terminals. In the method of transmission just described the receiving clock is started afresh for each character received and there may be a gap of any length of time between characters. This technique of data transmission is known as "start/stop" or asynchronous operation.

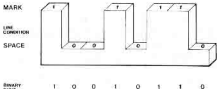
TIME INTERVAL NUMBER 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9...



SERIAL REPRESENTATION OF A DATA CHARACTER

FIGURE 1

TIME INTERVAL NUMBER 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8



FULL AND HALF-DUPLEX TRANSMISSION

A communication channel is described as "full duplex" if data can be transmitted in both directions at the same time. If data can be transmitted in either direction but only in one direction at any one time, the channel is said to be half-duplex. The process of changing the direction in which data can flow is called "turning the line round" and the time taken to do this is called the "turn-round time".

Many terminal networks which do not actually require data to be transmitted both ways at the same time nevertheless use full duplex data channels, because the turn-round time of the channel would lead to unacceptably long response times from the computer. Another reason for avoiding half-duplex operation is that to turn the line round needs special functions in the computer software and in the terminal and computer interface hardware. Networks using low cost mini-computers or simple keyboard compatible terminals are therefore often constrained to employ full duplex working.

The need to make future systems compatible with satellite communication channels which involve relatively long transmission delays and therefore cannot be turned round quickly means that they must use full duplex techniques.



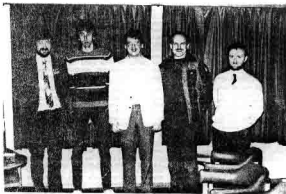
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