

Bromsgrove & District Amateur Radio Club.
Newsletter. 15.08.21

Club Nets.

These will continue on Monday and Wednesday evenings. 7.30 local time. 145.400MHz FM. There will continue to be a net on Friday evenings for those unable to attend the club meeting, again 7.30 local time, so before the club meeting starts. This worked really well last Friday with a couple of members activating G3VGG from the club shack.

Club Shack News.

On Thursday I met up with Brian at the shack to him let have a go on HF so we put out call and back came 9A (Croatia) station so nothing special we gave him our location and the WX report etc he then came back to say he was sat on Cocoa beach Florida with a drink in hand remotely operating his station back home in Croatia I of course berated him for winding us up as we sat in our little wooden hut but he then told not to be envious as they were waiting for a tropical storm to hit very shortly.

Roy G6NYG. Chairman.

My Life with Radio – John G4PKW.

I continue my story after rather a long break due to health problems and a rapid deterioration in my eyesight. In the last chapter I was on my way to No.1 Operators Training Battalion at Catterick Camp in Yorkshire. The date about February 1945.

I enjoyed my time at Catterick, apart from the daily CW lessons, which were quite intense. About 50% of us stayed the course and managed the required 12 wpm. The rest of the time was spent playing radio! Learning to operate the various types of transceivers in use at the time. Old timers and members of wartime radio groups will be familiar with such models as No. 22 set, No. 19 set, No. 18 set, No. 38 set, No. 52 and 53 set, all using valves. The smaller portable radios used dry batteries, whereas the larger types designed for tank and vehicle use ran from large 12-volt lead acid batteries which we had to charge from petrol driven generators called Chore Horses.

So, a great time was had by all, roaming the Yorkshire Moors and Dales “stroke Mobile” and generally getting to know Yorkshire. Our nearest town was Richmond where we went to church on Sunday’s and spent most of our weekly one pound ten shillings mostly on food.

It was at this time my girl friend and I decided as the possibility of my having to go to Europe, we set a wedding date for June 19th. 1945.

To explain a little more of interest to the radio minded, the term OWL, Operator Wireless and Line, was the course I was on. The line side was particularly interesting, one device used was called a Fullerphone. It consisted of a high audio frequency buzzer and a morse key connected by a single wire and a ground spike. It was possible to send and receive morse over very long distances. The other unit was the field telephone which I think was called DON8 and used the same single wire connection.

The piece of gear no one likes was the telephone switchboard, with all its plugs and cords to confuse one. Happily, radio was the main type of communication I was to use during my service.

On May 8th, 1945 the war in Europe came to an end and suddenly life was changed for millions.

I went ahead with my planned marriage at Kings Norton Church on 19th June 1945. We were married by the Reverend W. Awdry, later of Thomas The Tank Engine fame!

After a few days leave it was back to Yorkshire to see what was going to happen next. Three months later, on August 15th 1945 the war in the East came to an end, so all the tropical gear my unit had been issued with was handed back only to be reissued for my Indian posting later.

To be continued.

INTERNATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE - LIGHTSHIP WEEKEND - 21/22 August 2021

On 21/22 August 2021" a Team of members from the range of the ARI from San Benedetto del Tronto (if the weather will be fine) starts with the Call IQ6SB/LT

" The Lighthouse of San Benedetto del Tronto " as specified in the subject:

- Reference Lighthouse = ITA-112 - Reference I.L.L.W. = ITA-0009
- Reference Italian Lighthouse (W.A.I.L.) = MA002

Best regards IQ6SB & IK6XEJ. Info qrz.com

Raffle.

The club will resume a monthly raffle starting in September. It will be held on the first Friday of each month, to coincide with the committee meetings. Tickets will £1 per ticket and all money will go to club funds.

We are looking for donations of suitable raffle prizes.

Initially Alan G4LVK will organise them, but if anyone wants to volunteer??

Faulty or damaged mobile phone?

Have a look at: <https://store.ifixit.co.uk/>

Thanks to Peter G4LRL for the info.

Finally,

Any articles to me please before next weekend. Remember this is YOUR newsletter.

Alan G4LVK.