



The VMARS News Sheet

A publication of the Vintage and Military Amateur Radio Society

Issue 88

July 2010

www.vmars.org.uk

M0VMW

Affiliated to the Radio Society of Great Britain

VMARS Committee contact details:

Chairman:

Stuart McKinnon G0TBI
145 Enville Road
Kinver
Near Stourbridge
West Midlands DY7 6BN
+44(0)1384 872157
chairman@vmars.org.uk

Secretary:

John Keeley G6RAV
7 Parr Close
Myton Road
Warwick
Warcs CV34 6NE
+44(0)1926 831355
honsec@vmars.org.uk

Treasurer:

Brian Thomas GW4KYT
3 New Road
Trebanos
Swansea
West Glamorgan SA8 4DL
+44 (0)1792 846014
treasurer@vmars.org.uk

Membership Secretary:

Peter Shepherd G7DXV
25 Tomkins Close
Stanford-Le-Hope
Essex SS17 8QU
01375 640618
memsec@vmars.org.uk

Ordinary Member:

Peter Jones G8CDC
Tudor House
Stoneleigh Road
Blackdown
Leamington Spa
Warwickshire CV32 6QR
01926 883345
peter@air-commuter.co.uk

Ordinary Member:

Ian Underwood M0YMK
Roundwyck Farm
Pipers Lane
Balls Cross
Petworth
Surrey GU28 9JZ
01403 820185
ian@greatinteriors.net

Publications Manager:

Bronek Wedzicha M0DAF
22 Farmers Way
Copmanthorpe
York
North Yorkshire YO23 3XX
+44(0)1904 708704
b.wedzicha@btinternet.com

radio club or society, spreading the word of VMARS and all it stands for. Once again a very warm welcome. And what of the last twelve months? We are, of course, here today, for the second year running, in the splendid setting of Bletchley



Your new Committee (left to right): Ian Underwood, M0YMK, Stuart McKinnon, G0TBI, John Keeley, G6RAV, Bronek Wedzicha, M0DAF, Brian Thomas, GW4KYT, and Peter Jones, G8CDC. In the background on the right is Ken Sanderson, G4KCF, whose tenure of the office of Vice Chairman lapsed shortly thereafter! Missing from the photograph is Pete Shepherd, G7DXV.

From our Chairman

The following is based on the Chairman's Report delivered at the AGM on 4th July at Bletchley Park

We continue into our 12th year of operation, with a huge amount of enthusiasm. I am glad to report that Membership has increased year on year, a testament to all that you do for the Society and its worldwide reputation. We now have a very healthy 353 Members. I would like to welcome all new Members into the Society, and I hope you can contribute in some small way to keep us where we are. It could be in the form of a contribution for the News Sheet or an article in Signal, helping out at an official VMARS stand at a rally or other event, or perhaps being an ambassador via your local

Park, the home of station 'X'. Little did I realise in 1999, when VMARS held its inaugural meeting at Bletchley Park, that we would return in style! I have to say a personal "thank you" to Claire Urwin and all staff at Bletchley Park, who made our stay, and that of the other visitors a memorable one. Thank you also for the invitation to participate in the Armed Forces Weekend, which is reported on in more detail elsewhere in this News Sheet.

Our own involvement with Bletchley Park reflects the broad range of interests of our Members. Whilst military and clandestine wireless always seems to be the focus of activities, this year's event demonstrated the keen interest we have in military vehicles equipped with wireless, and in military man packs, whereas on the previous occasion our display included field telephones. However, it is not all about the display, it is much more to do with the knowledge that goes with it. I often hear it said that someone in VMARS is likely to know the answer to a particular question and, invariably, that is true!

When looking for information, Members and non-members can consult our extensive archive, made possible by the generous bequest made by our dear friend Ian Mant G4WWX, now long SK but not forgotten. The Archive is being added to all the time through the generosity of our Members, and is administered by the Archive volunteers. Our grateful thanks must go to all of that team, and to Thorpe Camp for their generosity in storing the Archive safely and securely.

We been very busy this last year; we have been involved with and been seen at many rallies up and down the country, some special events, various gatherings and lectures, too many to mention here. So, again, many thanks



to all those who took the time and trouble to make these happen. You are a credit to the Society. We have emulated our sister group, the Dutch SRS, by combining business (such as the EGM held earlier this year) with a social swap/auction meet. I must say that the enthusiasm has been wonderful, and much equipment has been brought within the reach of Members. By conducting such sales we have also been able to help those left behind when bereaved. The Treasurer always looks happy, as well! After the last such event, the Luton Car Boot Rally the following day was buzzing with praise. Even non-members were talking about it

Let us pay tribute to Bronek who has been fielding two jobs. He has been Publications Manager, ably assisted by the Publications Team, and has also been doing the rather demanding job of Membership Secretary. Brian Thomas our treasurer keeps a tight reign on our finances, and so he should. It is your money, after all. My grateful thanks go to him and, of course, to our two Honorary Examiners David Smith and Antony Wedgwood. Our Hon Secretary, John Keeley, supports the Committee with his meticulous paperwork, but most importantly, the Committee I am sure will acknowledge the calm and wisdom with which he provides measured advice on a whole range of sometimes tricky issues which confront us from time to time. Peter Chadwick headed up the Constitution Review Team, and we thank him for his attention to detail, patience with the many revises stemming from comments, and determination to get the job finished and well done. Thanks also go to Antony Wedgwood, William Blankley, and Mike Buckley for comments on the various drafts of the Constitution. I am glad things are now much simpler, and Members can start to get on with things in VMARS, without feeling constrained or distracted! Mike Bayliff has unfortunately had to give up the position of Ordinary Member for personal reasons, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his contribution, and wish him and his wife Maggie well for the future.

I must, of course, never forget the work that goes on in the background, the help and advice we receive from our partners, who are the unsung heroes!

Stuart J Mckinnon, GOTBI

Armed Forces Weekend

Bletchley Park, 3rd and 4th July 2010

We were blessed with fine weather, an excellent turnout by VMARS Members both as exhibitors and visitors, and members of the public who came in large numbers.







Readers, I am sure, will agree that the pictures say it all, whereas those who attended will no doubt share the view that they reflect the spirit of the occasion. In brief, then, these are some of the highlights of the weekend.

The group photograph at the top of page 2 shows the gathering of VMARS Members, (some of them with partners) on the Sunday when we had the AGM. This, of course, does not include a number of colleagues who could attend only on Saturday, so the involvement of VMARS Members speaks for itself. Colin Guy ran the Saturday morning AM net from the marquee (kindly provided by the Milton Keynes Amateur Radio Society, and served with an 80 m dipole) using a PRC320/2 and, as the photograph testifies, net-control is thirsty work! Pictured below on page 2 are Antony Wedgwood, G0TJD, Mervyn Terry, GW8TBG, and Stuart Atkinson, G3YPS, just before opening time. The sun-hats and short sleeves say something about the weather that day!

As usual, the display provided by Ken Sanderson, G4KCF, featuring his T1154/R1155 and replica paraset, was very popular with visitors, and there was much interest in Ken's demonstration of the R1155 DF system.

During the afternoon on Sunday, all those who had brought manpacks assembled for a march-past (not exactly in step!), and the photographs show well the extent of this contribution, with a very wide range of sets in evidence.

Chris Suslowicz's heliograph, pictured bottom right of page 3, was a show-stopper, and he must have demonstrated the set-up and operation countless times during the weekend, aided of course, by spells of sunshine. The theme of the Weekend included 'military communication throughout the ages', so this display was very apt.

The vehicles display was exemplary with some fine radios on display; on site there were two Champs, two Landrovers, and an Austin K9. Thank you to those who came with their vehicles, which also provided some of the over-head attractions in the form of aerials consisting of verticals, loops, and masts with wires strung between them.

The final photograph on this page is the Archive display put on by Colin Guy, G4DDI. He provided an on-line link to the Archive database and was able to retrieve manuals on the day, but a most interesting illustration was that of the quality of copy that can be achieved through the 'cleaning' process adopted when documents are scanned. The exhibit was of a circuit diagram in a manual, and the printed copy after scanning and cleaning (on the poster board on the left of the picture). This illustrates very well what Colin often tells us about the amount of work and detail that goes into scanning and processing the images.

On Saturday the RAF Hurricane and the Red Arrows put in an appearance as well. That evening, Pete Shepherd, G7DXV, also organised a very successful 'curry night' for those who stayed over, and the feeling is that this was a first of many!

None of this weekend would have been possible without the generous invitation received from the Trustees and Staff at Bletchley Park, and I am sure that all those attending would like to acknowledge the generosity shown by all at Bletchley Park for such a memorable weekend, not forgetting our day by day exchanges with the key person Clair Urwin, Bletchley Park's Events Manager. The fact that all we had to do, was turn up, unload and operate is due to John Pether, G4JGG, and Dave Wells, M0CEM, and Milton Keynes Amateur Radio Society. They put up the aerials, marquee, and helped us sort out the logistics, whilst answering the many questions which arose during the course of planning.

Thank you to Anne McKinnon, M3TBI, for the photograph of the Committee on the front cover, to Mike Buckley, M1CCF, for the centre photograph on this page, and to all who posed to be immortalised in this issue of the News Sheet.

Bronek Wedzicha, MODAF

From the Membership Secretary

Having just had an extremely good day out at the McMichael Rally, I wanted to say how good it was to meet so many of the Members who came along. As many of you will know, I have now been elected onto the VMARS Committee and have the honour of taking on the role of Membership Secretary which Bronek has held for the past year, and done such a good job with. I hope I can do as good a job to follow in his and Stuart's footsteps.

I would like to thank those who asked me to consider this role in the Society, and those Members who voted in favour

of my acceptance at the AGM. I hope I can live up to their expectations of me.

Having held a previous position on what was the Members' Panel, I was considering a natural progression towards the Committee if the Membership so wished. Initially, the idea of Membership Secretary came as a surprise but one that I was very happy to accept.

At the moment a hand over period between myself and Bronek is in place. Any enquiries or new memberships are still being handled by Bronek until the end of the month and then the problems, I guess, will be mine. In the short term, you may contact either of us to deal with any queries as we will be working together closely.

I would like to say just how enjoyable and successful I found the Bletchley Park Armed Forces Weekend. Those Members who turned out in their communications equipped vehicles and those who put on working and static displays of radio equipment are a credit to the Society. The Weekend reflected our enthusiasm and dedication to the Society and the hobby. May I say a special word of thanks to the Bletchley Park and MKARS teams for their help in making our displays such a success. I hope that they feel we had contributed well to the Weekend.

Do we do it again? Try stopping me. As for the Indian meal on the Saturday evening. What a blinder. For those coming next time, please let me know. We might just fill the restaurant.

Pete Shepherd, G7DXV

Family Fun Day

Norfolk and Suffolk Aviation Museum, 25th July

Sunday, 25th July 2010 saw VMARS members Ray, M0EVK, David, G0SKE, Peter, G8BLS, and Brian, M1JLM, ably assisted by Lawrie, G4FAA, and Peter, G3SUY, setting up a display of vintage radio equipment at the Family Fun Day at the Norfolk and Suffolk Aviation Museum, located at Flixton in Suffolk. (See <http://www.aviationmuseum.net>).



The day started a little overcast, with a very light shower in the morning, turning into a glorious afternoon. A good variety of static and working exhibits were put on display. Some of the equipment was set up in an ex-Civil Defence Corps Signal van body, kindly donated to the museum in 2003 and suitably renovated for its original purpose. Other equipment was set up outside.

The green corner was represented by W.S. 38, W.S. 46, W.S. 62, R209, PRC-6 (Banana phone) and the later RT-320.



In the Navy corner, there was a TCS TX/RX pair and a CNY-2. The blue corner consisted of a T1154, a couple of R1155s and a BC-348. Also in evidence was a Codar AT5, a BC-221, an Eddystone EC-10, a Geloso converter, and a couple of smaller modern transceivers (one arranged as a pedestrian mobile backpack) completed the line up.



Several successful AM contacts were made during the day by the CNY-2 and the T1154, including the local top band net with contacts up into North Norfolk, several 80 m contacts by the T1154, and inter-site contact using the W.S. 38 on 40 m. Aerials used were random length wires, one fed through some of the trees surrounding part of the site, using a 40 ft fishing pole to do the "threading". The other aerial was attached to an existing flagpole at one end, and a 27 ft ex-army mast at the other. This aerial had the benefit of the most enormous solid metal ground plane, in the shape of a Vickers Valetta. Although the top soil appeared very dry, the site has a high water table due to the close proximity of the River Waveney, being located just above the flood plain.



Noise levels were very low, except on those occasions when Peter, G8BLS, provided a very convincing demonstration of PLT interference using a couple of Comtrend PLT adaptors, and at least one member of the public vowed to switch his off in future, when not in use. One down, 4,999,999 to go.

Brian, M1JLM, wearing a W.S.38, tried to persuade visitors that the W.S. 38 was the latest fashion to replace their mobile phones, but had no takers. Several small boys had great fun twiddling every knob in sight on the TCS pair, and enjoyed making pretend transmissions between themselves. (Now what settings do I normally use?)

The day was rounded off by several low passes of the Lancaster from the BBMF. We had fun playing and demonstrating radio, and I'm sure the visitors did as well. Any Members in the Norfolk/Suffolk vicinity are highly recommended to visit this free museum (see web site for opening times). There are lots of aircraft, parts of aircraft, all kind of related displays and exhibitions, and also lots of vintage radio gear tucked here and there, courtesy of Ray, M0EVK.

Brian Murfitt, M1JLM

VMARS Members visit Droitwich Transmitting Station. 21st July 2010



Although not strictly military or amateur related, parts of the Droitwich Transmitting Station are certainly vintage and it was thought that a brief description of the visit would therefore not be too off-topic in the NS. The visit was organised by the Cheltenham Amateur Radio Association (CARA) and took place on 21st July. Two VMARS Members were present, the author and Martin, 2E0LQR. The tour was conducted by the very enthusiastic Steve Gwilliam, ably assisted by Paul Clampin, who are responsible for a large number of such sites around the Midlands and are both radio amateurs.

We started off with a stroll across the field for a closer look at the main antenna, the 700 ft high "T", familiar to everyone who travels on the M5. To gain access to the matching house we had to pass through the "singing gate". The field strength here is so high that the galvanised bolt acts as a detector and the programme can be faintly heard emanating from the metalwork itself (someone else might be able to explain the physics)! Inside are two massive ATUs and matching networks combining the output from the two 250 kW transmitters, fed via 6" diameter coax cables. Under

certain fault conditions, the 100 ohm balancing resistor has to dissipate 125 kW for which it has a 30 second rating. It had once, apparently, had to handle this load for 4 hours. It managed this quite successfully, although it did melt the pitch in the building's ceiling!

We then entered the main transmitter hall. Perhaps not as pristine as it was in 1937, when it's sole inhabitant was the elegant chrome and glass 5XX transmitter, it now houses a collection of large medium-wave transmitters, broadcasting Radio 5 Live, Talk Sport, and Absolute Radio (ex Virgin) in addition to the two Marconi B6042 long-wave transmitters for Radio 4. The R5L service combines the output of three Marconi B6034 50 kW transmitters that feed one of the masts holding up the LW aerial – a handy 5/8 wave vertical! A number of Harris DX-50 transmitters are used for the other services. The Absolute Radio transmitter is a 105 kW fully solid-state system, the modulation of which is heavily processed to maintain a very loud signal. Not to everyone's taste, but apparently that is what the customer wants. Reassuringly, this is backed up by an old Pye TVT valve transmitter using the Doherty amplifier system. We were also shown some of the valves used. We might think the 4CX250B is a serious PA valve but here, even the 4CX1500 is considered a baby! The 4CX35000 is deemed reasonably useful but I think even this is only used as a driver! Sadly no glowing filaments were to be seen anywhere.

All in all, a most entertaining and informative evening. Excellent archive material on the Droitwich site is available at: http://www.bbceng.info/Operations/transmitter_ops/Reminiscences/Droitwich/droitwich_calling.htm

Keith Yates, G3XGW

IET Lecture: 70 Years of the Cavity Magnetron

**Dr MF Diprose B.Sc. (Hons), Ph. D., MSLE.T., C.Eng
South Yorkshire Air Museum. 24th October, 2.00 p.m.**

The cavity magnetron was one of the most important devices developed in WW2 and made a very significant contribution to the war effort. Used in equipment by all three services, it enabled the RAF to increase its effectiveness in taking the war to the heartland of Germany; the Navy and Coastal Command to all but eradicate the U-Boat menace, and the Army in Anti-Aircraft defence and gun ranging and mortar plotting.

Generally the invention is attributed to a discovery by Randall and Boot at the University of Birmingham in February 1940. There is considerable evidence, however, that cavity magnetrons were operating in Russia, Japan, Germany, and the USA before this date.

The lecture looks at the history of the magnetron and the cavity magnetron from the early decades of the 20th Century and presents an overview of the evidence from several countries that the device was known about before 1940. Irrespective of who was actually the first to invent it, the extensive use of the device in so many aspects of the military operations in WW2 was certainly an allied 'first'. The Germans tried to catch up but were too far behind, and the Japanese never really developed their devices to the same extent.

After a review of the historical development, and an assessment of its importance to the allied victory, the lecture looks at the post war uses (e.g., the microwave oven) and will bring the audience up to date with modern developments - such as the 8GW devices now available (this is not a misprint, pulses of 8 GW are possible).

—o0o—

Please note this is NOT the last Sunday in October. It usually happens that the IET Lecture coincides with the last Sunday in the month, but this is not the case this year. Apparently, however, it still coincides with the time change. The lecture follows the usual SYAM Electro-Jumble, EJ.

Admission to the lecture and lunch is free but not to the EJ. Admission charges apply for the EJ. Please note that these charges have risen for the first time in many years and that standard admission to the EJ is now £3, and a stall table is £6. Free admission to the lectures and lunch is only available after 12.30 p.m. Prior to that time, e.g., arrival at 11.30—midday, charges will apply. Please note that all those turning up at 10.00 a.m. claiming free admission to the lecture (you may be surprised at how many there are) will be required to remove wallets from jackets and pay. If you want to attend the EJ as well as the lecture, please arrive in good time and pay the admission. All funds raised from the EJ go to the museum — none to private pockets. If you only want to attend the lecture, then please arrive after 12.30.

The Magnetron from Kharkov to Berlin

South Yorkshire Network, IET at the South Yorkshire Air Museum.

Sunday, 26th September, 10.30-16.00 (lunch and refreshments included)

Admission free, but booking required

The day will combine a Prestige Lecture by Professor Nosich, with a unique presentation by two leading WW2 radar experts.

The John Freeman Memorial Lecture: 2010

'In the Labour People's Name: Development of 60-kW Magnetrons in the Artificial Famine Plagued Ukraine in the Early 1930s'.

Professor Alexander Nosich

Department of Computational Electromagnetics
IRE NASU
Kharkov 61085, Ukraine.

Professor Alexander Nosich, will present the first lecture in the UK on pre-war cavity magnetron developments in the USSR, which preceded those of Randall and Boot, leading to cavity magnetrons in 1938.

it is generally assumed that the cavity magnetron was born in Birmingham, February, 1940, following work by Randall and Boot. Recent research, however, has clearly shown the cavity concept was well known before this in Japan, Russia, France, Germany, and the USA; patents involving magnetrons with cavities were being sought in all those countries prior to the outbreak of WW2. Whereas the work in most of those countries has been described, that done in Russia is virtually unknown. The John Freeman Memorial Lecture for 2010 will describe the Russian work, for the first time in the UK. Not only will Professor Nosich describe the technical developments and devices, but also the very disturbing circumstances which surrounded working conditions in the USSR at the time.

In addition, there will be a special, on the subject of

'CHESS — Move and Countermove in Electronic Warfare in WW2'

Dr. Phil Judkins & Arthur Bauer

A combined lecture presented by two experts in WW2 electronic warfare. Phil Judkins is a Visiting Fellow of the Royal Military Academy, Shrivenham and Arthur Bauer is an acknowledged expert in German radio and radar.

Following the lecture by Alexander Nosich, there will be an unique presentation by Dr. Phil Judkins and Mr. Arthur Bauer on the pattern of developments of WW2 European radar measures and countermeasures, told between the two presenters, as each move and counter-move developed. The account will include references to the cavity magnetron as it appeared in the European context.

Contacts:

Dr. Mike Diprose; mike.dirrosespectrum-tec.co.uk
0143 363 1296

Brian Heathcote; brian.heathcote@theiet 01226 383916

Please remember to pre-book. The event is free and open to all, but it is necessary to inform the organisers of attendance. E-mail and phone numbers are given above, but postal bookings can be made to:

Dr. Mike Diprose,
26, Brookfields,
Calver,
Derbyshire,
S32 3XB.

Thanks are due to the S. Yorkshire Network of the IET for sponsoring these lecture events.

Mike Diprose

Newhaven Fort Rally, 6th June 2010



Included in this News Sheet are some pictures of my visit to the Newhaven Rally and the club premises which are situated within the Fort. From the photos you can see the prime take off position and unrestricted antenna situation. The club station appears well equipped and the display of QSL cards bears testament to its success. Also within the club premises is a museum dedicated to its benefactor, the late Cyril Fairchild, G5YY. The Museum contains a wealth of equipment, with which most VMARS Members should be familiar



Stuart Atkinson, G3YPS

Gatwick Radio Weekend

11-12th September 2010

Members, their families, and interested friends are invited to come along to the Annual Family Weekend, very close to Gatwick on the A217 at Hunters Moon (surprisingly, there is no aircraft noise) Location; RH6 0HU, GRID TQ262438.

We shall be on site from mid-day Friday and you can stay into Monday if you wish to.

Bring something vintage(ish), preferably radio, but ??? will do! Military vehicles of all radio types welcome - see information at www.radioclubs.net/m0vog - scroll down the events - Oh this year the Ferret Club are coming along.

The site has lots of room to experiment and transmit, is level and congenial for a caravan or tent—while you play radio the family can go to the local sports centre, swimming, Brighton, or the Bluebell Railway, *etc.*, or just lay back and enjoy the sun and the surroundings, Saturday night BBQ and large bonfire.

Don't be put off by any sort of weather - one year it did rain a bit, well it hardly stopped, but we still enjoyed ourselves, had the BBQ, and did not finish up in a quagmire of mud.

To help with catering please tell us you are coming

Les the owner: valearabians@sky.com
01293 773997 - 07968007023

Andy the Radio man: G8JAC@btinternet.com
0208 651 2727 - 07752 900 157

Mike: m1ccf@talktalk.net
0208 654 2582 - 07984 931 360

Hack Green Radio Camp 25-27th. June 2010

The Stoke on Trent Radio Club, including VMARS Members, assembled at Hack Green Secret Nuclear Bunker for what turned out to be the best radio camp to date. Hack Green hosts radio camps four to five times a year when amateurs young and old turn up to help with projects, including the restoration of vintage equipment, pick up a few tips, and enjoy the BBQ and beers.

The weekend of June 25-27th 2010 certainly had the WX, being up in the high 20s every day and well into the evenings.

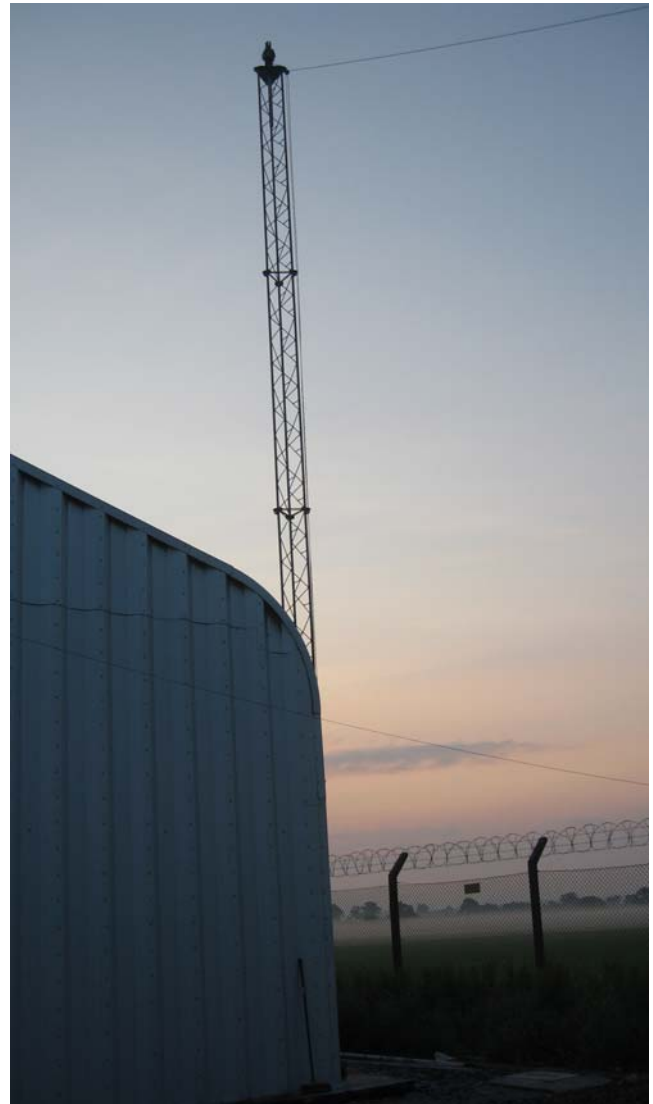
The Racal 1 kW TX were attacked yet again but the "perfect" operation of the units still escaped the egger beavers who tinkered with its elderly logic. The auto tuner (PA tuning) goes past "peak" output power, settling at about one third of the transmitter's capable power output. By switching to manual PA tuning, over a kW was possible on the dummy load whereas auto tuning settled at 400 W. If any Member knows these units, and can offer a tip or two, the gang would be appreciative.

The Saturday was spent erecting a triangular section sixty foot mast made up of four bolt together sections. The first (ground) section was fixed to the concrete by use of Chemical Anchors, a technique I had not used before. Six 12 mm diameter high tensile stainless steel threaded rods were prepared ready to be screwed into six 14 mm holes which had the chemical two pack compound squirted into them.

The instructions stated that the compound would become a "jelly" consistency within one minute, and would be rock hard within 100 minutes, and they were not kidding, it was lightning fast stuff. The oversize holes (14mm) were drilled to a depth of 250mm and cleared out using an airline. Next

the bolts were lined up and as each hole received about one third volume of resin, the bolts were literally screwed into the mixture to draw upwards the compound.

After 2 minutes the overflow could just be chipped off with a hammer and bolster. After the 100 minutes had elapsed, we built and climbed the tower, with no noticeable movement of the anchors at ground level. The sections were hauled into place using a gin-pole fitted with a pulley (see last photo). Two climbers, Martin Steel and Joe Bell, waited in position to receive and bolt the sections of the tower together units with 12 mm galvanized bolts. By the Saturday evening the tower, complete with rotator, were in position ready for Sunday's task.



The distance from the new tower to the 40 m tower on the opposite side of the complex is sufficient to erect, at 60 ft AGL, a half wave top-band dipole which was erected on Sunday and used by the other members on site with great signal reports all round.

The other task set aside for Sunday was to haul into place the Log-Periodic antenna (50 MHz to 560 MHz) and fix this into the heavy duty rotator donated to the group by Don Bussell, G4EOT. An IP65 plastic box was machined to act as the external cable receptacle, providing a weather-proof method of passing control and coax cables through the wall of the steel building to the operating position inside.

In the next photograph, the gin-pole and Joe Bell can be seen manoeuvring the quite large antenna into the rotator head.



The "good weather" shelter was purchased at The War & Peace Show held during July at the Hop Farm, Beltring, Kent, and consists of a throw away centre section of a 12x12 tent, sold to us by Anchor Surplus for £10, plus the poles from a Leyland Daff drop-side military truck, and the ground spikes from a Russian field antenna. The radio operators certainly approved of the ventilated accommodation and the photo here shows them fast asleep at 0600 on the Sunday morning.



A great weekend was had by all and my thanks go to all concerned.

Joe Bell, G4PMY

Salute to the 40's: The Historic Boatyard at Chatham

18-19th September 2010

Well here I am back on duty after being away somewhere in England on something hush, hush!

We're now well into the planning for the big weekend in September! This is just a reminder message that the event is on Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th September – as if you needed reminding! We already have a large entry for the big weekend including some exciting new displays.

Big points for this year are:

- This year sees the opening of the restored Smithy in collaboration with the Imperial War Museum and the National Maritime Museum. Plenty of WW2 interest including, for the first time, the full collection of restored paintings by the celebrated War Artist Sir Stanley Spencer.
- Wartime entertainment will once again feature in a big way, with plenty of music and song to join in with.
- A campaign to attract as many transport trucks and lorries for the Ordnance Depot display.
- Sailors wanted!! This is a dockyard with warships, so come on all you matelot and Royal Marine re-enactors, sign-up for a great occasion!

Registration forms for re-enactors, role-players, vehicle owners and all the other wonderful people who come together to create this amazing event (and have fun doing it!) are available now. You may already have received yours, either by post direct to you, or by e-mail. Remember, only pre-registered and approved persons/groups will be permitted to stay overnight, so make sure you get registered!

Have a great 2010 season and please stay safe! See you in September and remember tell anyone and everyone about it. As we all know the more the merrier!

Bill Fowler
 Events Manager & Armed Forces Liaison
 The Historic Dockyard Chatham
 Direct Dial 01634-823821
 Fax 01634-823801
 www.thedockyard.co.uk

VMARS at Bletchley Park DVD

Produced by RSVP
 RS Video Productions
 Birmingham UK
 Bletchley Park AFD
 Running time 55 mins

All Rights Reserved
 No unauthorised performance, copying or distribution
 For Domestic Home Use Only
 Copyright 2010 RS Video Productions

Recorded over the wife of 3rd & 4th July 2010
 at The Armed Forces Day, Bletchley Park,
 Home of The WWII National Code Breakers.

The VMARS brief at the Armed Forces Weekend was to illustrate 'military communications through the ages'.

This video sets out to highlight the vehicles and diverse equipment brought along and ably demonstrated by VMARS Members.

Running time 55 minutes £7.50 UK post paid.

N.B. £1 of this will be donated to the Charity 'Wireless for the Blind Fund'

Cheques or P.O.'s made out to R Swinburne, 32 Hollywell Rd., Sheldon, Birmingham B26 3BX.

Any enquiries etc by email M0WSN@aol.com

Forthcoming event: Auction and Swapmeet, Autumn 2010

We have just learned that the final tranche of equipment from the Estate of the late G3TBQ has been made available to VMARS to sell by auction. Members will recall that a substantial number of lots have already been sold by us in this way. Whereas this has been too short notice to fix a venue and date in time for the current News Sheet, we will endeavour to publicise in the August News Sheet. As usual a catalogue will be published beforehand.

Bronek Wedzicha, M0DAF

Saturday AM Net-Controller's Rota

Date	1 st op	2 nd op	3 rd op
7 th Aug	GW8TBG	G8AQN	G1EDP
14 th Aug	G8AQN	G1EDP	M0TCM
21 st Aug	G1EDP	M0TCM	M0DAF
28 th Aug	M0TCM	M0DAF	G0TBI
4 th Sep	M0DAF	G0TBI	G4GEN
11 th Sep	G0TBI	G4GEN	G4BQF
18 th Sep	G4GEN	G4BQF	GW8TBG

Helplines – Queries

88/1 Dynamotor PSU No. 18

Does anyone in VMARS own a WS76 transmitter with the dynamotor power supply unit no. 18?

Committee notices

Committee Meeting 16th June 2010

Committee Meeting No 3 of 2009/10 was held by telephone conference on Wednesday 16th June at 2030 BST. The following took part: Stuart McKinnon, G0TBI (Chairman); John Keeley, G6RAV (Hon Secretary); Brian Thomas, GW4KYT (Treasurer); Bronek Wedzicha, M0DAF (Membership Secretary); Peter Chadwick, G3RZP (Committee Member) & Mike Bayliff, M0XGG (Committee Member).

The principal decisions taken and topics discussed were as follows:

I am looking for some photographs of the PSU, both above and below chassis, to assist in rebuilding mine—the chassis had been reused to build a mains unit by a previous owner. I have a copy of the Working Instructions manual, courtesy of Roger Basford, which includes a circuit and a sketch above chassis view. This shows little more than the dynamotor and three 0.01uF filter capacitors.

However a picture supplied by Alan Reeves (from his files, he doesn't own the TX), looking down through the transmitter lid shows a block capacitor in the rear corner. There look to be original holes in my chassis which could have been for mounting such a capacitor, so maybe there was another version. It would also suit me as it would help disguise where two holes have been very crudely 'mashed' to mount an octal-based valve rectifier. (Two because I guess the bodger decided his first hole was in the wrong place!). In addition, there is something I can't make out visible in the front corner of the chassis which also coincides with screw holes in my chassis

Any help would be appreciated. (By the way, the WS76 at Muckleburgh has the mains 'Supply Unit Rectifier No 14' fitted, so is of no help).

Please contact via: 01254 854490 or andy-young@supanet.com

Andy Young, M0FYA

Letters

From Colin Guy, G4DDI

I would like to say a big thank you to the Committee for arranging the AGM weekend at Bletchley Park and also to the Milton Keynes Amateur Radio Society for making us most welcome. From the journey down, arrival to find a tent, table, mains power and aerials provided, an excellent night out in a local curry-house, time spent on the radio using both a "modern" PRC320/2 and Ken's superb R1155/T1154 station, the "Manpack Parade", all the superb facilities of BP including the "vintage" station there, excellent conversation with other members. I have to say that everything worked together to make a thoroughly enjoyable weekend out. Here's to next year!

1. Approval of Society Accounts

The Society Accounts up to 31st December had been approved by email on 11th May and were formally recorded as being approved.

2. AGM 2010 – Committee Nominations

John Keeley reported that no nominations had been received for the post of Membership Secretary or Committee Member #2. It was agreed to seek nominations from the floor for these posts at the AGM.

3. Auction Results

Brian Thomas reported that the sum of £1,394 was banked following the auction held on 22nd May, of this money, £718

was credited to Society funds being due to vendor accounts not settled on the day.

4. Unauthorised Publication of Clansman Documents

Stuart McKinnon reported that a relatively new member of the Society had apparently published some Clansman documents obtained from the restricted download site on a third party email reflector group. Checks were continuing to establish whether or not the documents had in fact originated from the Society restricted download site and initial indications were that this was the case. Stuart was working Colin Guy to progress the matter and was in contact with the member concerned who has been asked to remove the documents in question from the third party site.

5. Bletchley Park Armed Forces Day

Stuart McKinnon and Bronek Wedzicha reported that all the all the arrangements for VMARS participation were now in place. Full details would be published in the June NS along with an admission ticket for the AGM that could be exchanged after the AGM for a concessionary admission to the BP site and event.

It was agreed to provide a tea /coffee and cakes reception for members following the AGM.

6. GB10VMARS QSL Card

Stuart McKinnon reported that the design on the front of the card and the wording on the reverse had now been finalised and he would liaise with Colin Guy regarding the printing.

7. Improvements to Members Services

(a) Society Auctions

A number of issues had arisen following the auction on 22nd May. These included management of the sale on the day, handling of late entries, negotiations between interested bidders and vendors of items that failed to make the reserve and subsequent concerns in respect of the purchase of items solely for trading purposes. Given the popularity and increase in the overall level of auction proceeds, there may now be a case for drawing up a code of practice for Society auctions.

It was decided to refer this matter to the new Committee after the AGM.

(b) Provision of better Document Scanning Equipment for the Archive Group

Brian Thomas reported that discussions with the Archive Group were continuing but the immediate need was for additional volunteer manpower rather than equipment. Brian suggested that it might also be appropriate to review the level of the regular donation made to the Thorpe Camp Trust in recognition of the storage facility they have provided for the Society Archive.

It was agreed that the donation should be reviewed and Brian would liaise with Colin Guy to that end.

8. Any Other Business

(a) Reduced Subscription

An enquiry had been received by Bronek Wedzicha from a prospective member regarding the possibility of a reduced subscription on grounds of hardship. The applicant had also spoken to John Keeley, who had ascertained the particular circumstances. These were outlined to the meeting.

The Constitution does not provide for reduced subscriptions on welfare grounds but the policy has been to consider any

requests received sympathetically on their merits. Given that the current basic annual UK subscription of £18 corresponds to approximately 35 pence per week the view was that this was already very low compared with other groups there is no real justification in reducing this further.

The decision was that a reduced subscription could not therefore be offered.

(b) Technical Content of Signal

Some comments had been received regarding the technical content of the recent issue of Signal – in particular projects using what might be described as “modern technology” There was some discussion and opinion was divided on the issue.

It was however agreed that Bronek Wedzicha would keep the technical content of Signal under review.

(c) Banners & Publicity Material

The question of banners and publicity material was raised. Given the increase in Society Stands at shows and rallies, it was felt that some additional Society Banners were now needed. It was also felt that the folded colour publicity leaflets were now rather dated.

It was agreed to refer the question of additional banners and updated publicity leaflets to the new Committee after the AGM.

There being no further business, the telephone conference finished at 2142 BST.

—o0o—

Annual General Meeting 2010

The Society Annual General Meeting for 2010 was held on Sunday 4th July at Bletchley Park

The meeting began at 1030 hrs BST with 34 members in attendance.

1. Welcome

Stuart McKinnon, GOTBI (Chairman), opened the meeting and welcomed those present. He expressed his pleasure at the VMARS presence at the Armed Forces Event at Bletchley Park and said that the Society had attracted significant positive feedback.

2. Apologies

Six (6) members had sent apologies and these were given to the meeting by John Keeley, G6RAV (Hon Secretary).

3. Minutes of AGM 2009

The minutes of AGM 2009 along with the minutes of the preceding EGM held on 17th October 2009 were both signed as correct.

4. Minutes of EGM 22nd May 2010

The minutes of the EGM held on the 22nd May to consider amendments to the proposed draft revised Constitution and to adopt the revised Constitution as amended were signed as correct.

5. Chairman's Report

Stuart McKinnon began his report by reflecting on what VMARS really stood for – Very Meticulous Articulate Radio Stars was one possibility. Continuing, he noted that Society Membership had increased year on year and now stood at a

very healthy 353 Members and would like to extend a personal welcome to all new members. Stuart encouraged new members to take an active part in Society life and opportunities for doing this ranged from contributing an article for "Signal" or the monthly News Sheet, through helping out at an official VMARS stand at a rally or other event to being an ambassador for VMARS at your local radio club.

Stuart then went on to review the past Society year and paid tribute to those who work behind the scenes.

The Leader in this News Sheet is based on the Chairman's Report.

6. Secretary's Report

The full text of the Secretary's Report had been provided with the AGM Agenda. John Keeley summarised this for the meeting. The year 2009/10 had been relatively quiet for the Committee with three formal meetings. As always Committee Members were in regular contact via email or telephone to conduct the day to day business of the Society.

Principal behind the scenes activity had been the review and drafting of the revised Constitution and John paid tribute to the review team of Antony Wedgwood, William Blankley and Mike Buckley, lead by Peter Chadwick, for their hard work.

7. Treasurer's Report

Brian Thomas, GW4KYT (Hon Treasurer) presented the Society Final Accounts up to 31st December 2009. The accounts showed a net surplus of £2804 representing an increase of £400 over the surplus at 31st December 2008. In consequence there would be no recommendation for an increase in subscriptions.

From the floor, Mike Buckley asked how it was proposed that the surplus be used. In reply, it was noted that some money had already been invested in improving the quality of "Signal" by providing a colour front cover and back page. Another Member from the floor reminded the meeting that the particular constitution of the Society meant that the Membership would be liable for any debts incurred by the Society and in consequence it was prudent to maintain the Society funds in surplus.

It was also noted that there had been no applications for Special Interest Grants (SIGS) and the Committee would welcome applications from Members wishing to undertake special research or restoration projects. Improvements to Members Services was a regular agenda item for Committee Meetings and the Committee welcomes suggestions for improvements to existing services or the setting up of new ones.

Mike Buckley also queried the level of expenses shown for the Committee as there had only been three formal meetings. Replying, Brian Thomas drew attention to the attached Notes to the Accounts. These explained that the individual Committee Members claims also included expenses incurred on Society business as well as attending Committee Meetings. As an example, Brian cited the fact that both Stuart McKinnon and Broniek Wedzicha had travelled to Bletchley Park to meet with the Armed Forces Event organisers in order to plan VMARS participation.

The motion to adopt the accounts was proposed by Chris Suslowicz and seconded by Dave Porter and carried by a unanimous show of hands.

8. Archive Group Report

Colin Guy, G4DDI, the Society Archivist, gave a report on the work of the Archive Group over the past year. The work

of scanning the vast collection of documents given to the Society through the generous bequest of the late Ian Mant, G4WWX continued. Colin explained that these documents were considered to be of historic importance and the work of the Archive Group was to preserve these documents by scanning them into a suitable electronic format. The aim was to achieve as near an original electronic document as possible rather than a simple working copy that could be used to aid equipment repair or restoration. By making the electronic version as near to the paper original as was possible the historic significance was retained. Colin noted that some documents from the electronic archive had already been cited as sources in research projects. Specialised software was used to "clean" the copies and, in addition to the currently available PDF format, it was hoped also to make material available in "E Book" format. Access to a professional scanner was currently available on a quid pro quo basis at no cost to the Society and this greatly speeded up the scanning process.

Documents continued to be added to the free download list on the Society Website during the course of the year and further Clansman documents were now available on the restricted list (available to Society Members only).

As always volunteers were needed to assist the scanning task and any Member interested should contact Colin

The full text of the Archive Group report will be included with the August News Sheet.

Some discussion followed and from the floor, Mike Buckley wondered whether some of the Society's surplus funds could be used to support the Archive Group work. For the Committee, Brian Thomas said that discussions were in progress on this possibility. From the floor, Chris Cooper (Archive Group) mentioned there was a need to renew licences for the specialised software the group used in processing the scanned documents.

Peter Jones asked whether there should be a small charge levied for the download of archive material. In reply, Colin said that he was committed to making the material available to the wider vintage radio interest community and making material freely available was a mark of distinction for VMARS. Chris Cooper (Archive Group) supported this approach and considered free access to be an important principle.

Discussion turned to the Clansman documentation held by the Society. Colin Guy reminded the meeting that this had originally been obtained on behalf of the Society by Richard Hankins through a freedom of information request. The documents had been released to the Society for the purposes of research and study with copyright remaining with the Ministry of Defence. For this reason the documents could not be placed on the free download site and were available from a restricted site to Members only.

Stuart McKinnon mentioned a recent incident in which a relatively new Member of the Society had obtained Clansman documents from the restricted site and allegedly published them on another site. Careful checking of the documents in question showed that they had indeed originated from the Society restricted site. The Member concerned had been contacted and the documents had now been removed from the third party site.

Colin pointed out that, to access the Clansman documents, an email request was required and after verification that the applicant was a Society Member, Colin would issue a dedicated download link. Colin felt that this procedure provided adequate protection against misuse and mentioned that a number of download requests had been denied citing

as an example, a request from an overseas member for ten copies of a particular document.

9. Election of Officers & Committee

Antony Wedgwood was appointed by the meeting to chair the election.

From the floor, Mike Buckley asked why the election for the new post of Vice Chairman had been postponed. John Keeley, Hon Secretary explained that as a motion not to incorporate the post of Vice Chairman had been tabled under Members Business it had been decided to suspend the seeking of nominations and election until the outcome of motion was known. If the motion was not carried then a call for nominations and a postal ballot would be put in hand as soon as possible after the AGM.

Mike Buckley argued that the revised Constitution required the election of a Vice Chairman and this should take place regardless of the motion not to incorporate the post. If the motion was successful then the post would lapse and the post-holder retire. After discussion with the independent Chairman for the election, it was agreed to seek nominations from the floor for the post of Vice Chairman

Result of Elections

A total of 11 (eleven) postal votes had been received and three Members present in the meeting held a total of 5 (five) proxy votes

(a) Chairman

Nominee: Stuart McKinnon, G0TBI
 Nominated by: Ron Swinburne, M0WSN
 Seconded by: Gerald Greatrix, G7HNM

Vote	For	Against
Postal	10	0
Floor	34	0
Proxy	5	0
Total	49	0

Note: 1 Postal vote was withheld

Stuart McKinnon, G0TBI was declared to be duly elected as Chairman

(b) Vice Chairman

There being no nomination for this post, Ken Sanderson, G4KCF, was nominated from the floor by Ian Greenberg, G8LOY and seconded by Dave Porter, G4OYX

Vote	For	Against
Postal	-	-
Floor	30	4
Proxy	5	0
Total	35	4

Ken Sanderson, G4KCF, was declared to be duly elected as Vice Chairman, pending the outcome of Motion 11.1

(c) Honorary Secretary

Nominee: John Keeley, G6RAV
 Nominated by: Mervyn Terry, GW8TBG
 Seconded by Rod Hawkins, 2E0XWD

Vote	For	Against
Postal	11	0
Floor	34	0
Proxy	5	0
Total	50	0

John Keeley, G6RAV was declared to be duly elected as Honorary Secretary

(d) Honorary Treasurer

Nominee: Brian Thomas, GW4KYT
 Nominated by: David Smith, G8IDL
 Seconded by: Mervyn Terry, GW8TBG

Vote	For	Against
Postal	11	0
Floor	34	0
Proxy	5	0
Total	50	0

Brian Thomas, GW4KYT was declared to be duly elected as Honorary Treasurer

(e) Membership Secretary

There being no nomination for this post, Pete Shepherd, G7DXV was nominated from the floor by Ron Swinburne, M0WSN and seconded by Andy Jackson, G8JAC

Vote	For	Against
Postal	-	-
Floor	34	0
Proxy	5	0
Total	39	0

Pete Shepherd, G7DXV was declared to be duly elected as Membership Secretary

(f) Publications Manager

Nominee: Bronek Wedzicha, M0DAF
 Nominated by: Murray McCabe
 Seconded by: Dave Evans, GW4GTE

Postal	10	1
Floor	34	0
Proxy	5	0
Total	49	1

Bronek Wedzicha, M0DAF was declared to be duly elected as Publications Manager

(g) Committee Member #1

Nominee: Peter Jones, G8CDC
 Nominated by: Mervyn Terry, GW8TBG
 Seconded by: John Coggins, G3TFC

Postal	11	0
Floor	34	0
Proxy	5	0
Total	50	0

Peter Jones, G8CDC was declared to be duly elected as Committee Member #1

(h) Committee Member #2

There being no nomination for this post, Ian Underwood, M0YMK, was nominated from the floor by Ken Sanderson, G4KCF, and seconded by Colin Guy, G4DDI.

Vote	For	Against
Postal	-	-
Floor	34	0
Proxy	5	0
Total	39	0

Ian Underwood, M0YMK. was declared to be duly elected as Committee Member #2

This completed the election of Officers & Committee and after thanking Antony Wedgwood, Stuart McKinnon resumed the chairmanship of the meeting.

10. Election of Honorary Examiners

John Keeley, (Hon Secretary) advised the meeting that David Smith, G8IDL, was willing to continue as an Honorary Examiner if elected. Antony Wedgwood, G0TJD, also signified that he was willing to continue if elected.

David Smith and Antony Wedgwood were re-elected as Honorary Examiners by a unanimous vote.

11. Members Business

11.1 Motion that the proposed post of Vice-Chairman shall not be incorporated

Proposed by: Chris Cooper

Seconded by: Colin Guy, G4DDI, and Stuart McKinnon, G0TBI

The motion was introduced by Chris Cooper. In summary, the Society had functioned perfectly adequately without the need for a Vice Chairman. The nature of the Society is such that the duties of the Chairman are the least onerous of the Officers of the Society and, if required, could easily be delegated at meetings. Also, the organisation of the Society does not require that only the Chairman can represent the Society at national events. Representation is normally undertaken by Committee members or local members. It was therefore considered that the post of Vice-Chairman would add to the running costs of the Society without offering any advantages, and cannot be justified for a Society the size of VMARS.

Before the motion was discussed, John Keeley, Hon Secretary, advised the meeting that he had been appointed proxy for Peter Chadwick and had been asked to read a statement from Peter to the meeting.

In summary, Peter Chadwick strongly opposed the motion for the following reasons: There is no provision without a Vice –Chairman for the contingency of the Chairman being ill, away on business or holiday. The new Constitution recognises this possibility.

It was to be hoped that Committee members would attempt to raise awareness of VMARS by giving talks to local clubs. The Vice-Chairman could have that as one of his/her responsibilities – a responsibility that might be difficult for ordinary members of the Committee to accept because of other tasks or projects that may arise from time to time.

Another consideration is that experience gained as Vice-Chairman would enable the post-holder to “move up” to Chairman when the Chairman stood down.

It is argued that the Society has not hitherto needed a Vice-Chairman but this doesn't mean that the need will not arise in the future. As an example, consider the extreme situation of the unexpected death of the Chairman. In such a case without a Vice-Chairman, the Society would be “rudderless” until an EGM could be convened to elect a new Chairman.

In closing, Peter asked the meeting to consider the points he had made and vote AGAINST the motion.

After discussion, the motion was put to the vote. The result was as follows:

Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Postal	5	4	1
Floor	28	6	3
Proxy	3	1	0
Total	36	11	4

Note: 1 Postal Voting Form not returned

The Motion that the proposed post of Vice-Chairman shall not be incorporated was declared to be duly carried by a majority of 25 votes. There were 4 abstentions.

As the motion was carried, the post of Vice Chairman therefore lapses.

12. Any Other Business

12.1 AGM Venue

Stuart Atkinson, G3YPS proposed that Bletchley Park be used as the venue for next year's AGM. Stuart McKinnon, G0TBI, Chairman, replying on behalf of the Committee, noted the proposal and said the Committee would look at this in due course.

12.2 AGM Venue

Ian Greenberg, G8LOY, proposed that the South Yorkshire Aeronautical Museum also be considered as a venue for next year's AGM. Stuart McKinnon, G0TBI, Chairman, replying on behalf of the Committee, again noted the proposal and said the Committee would look at this in due course.

12.3 Constitution V2.1: Aims of Society

Chris Cooper queried the wording of Section 2, Aims, in the revised Constitution. Given that some Members have a particular interest in radar and pulsed navigational systems, such as GEE, Clause 2(b) is misleading as it could imply that the Society sought to operate pulse modulated equipment on air. Pulse modulation is not currently permitted under the terms of the current UK amateur licence.

Replying, Stuart McKinnon, G0TBI, Chairman, noted Chris's concern and stated that the Committee would review the wording of Section 2.

12.4 Constitution V2.1: EGM Timescale

It was commented from the floor that Section 10, Extraordinary General Meeting required the Hon Secretary to set a date for the meeting within 14 days of receipt of a notice calling the EGM but did not specify a timescale for the actual date of the meeting.

Stuart McKinnon, G0TBI, Chairman noted the comment and agreed that the Committee would propose a suitable amendment to Section 10.

12.5 Society Website

Colin Guy, G4DDI, Webmaster proposed a “makeover” for the Society Website. The content would remain as before but the appearance of site would be improved. Colin will provide a draft layout for the Committee to review.

12.6 Items from Mike Buckley, M1CCF

12.61 Matter Arising from AGM 2009

Mike had proposed at AGM 2009 that Gavin Keegan be co-opted onto the Committee. Why had this not happened?

Stuart McKinnon, G0TBI, Chairman stated in reply that the Committee had kept Mike’s proposal in mind but no situation had arisen that required co-opting an additional Committee member.

12.62 GB10VMARS QSL Card

Mike asked when these would be available.

Responding, Stuart McKinnon, G0TBI, Chairman, stated that the design and wording were now complete and the Committee would liaise with Colin Guy to organise the printing and issue.

12.63 Membership Services

Mike asked what was being done to improve / develop Membership Services.

John Keeley, G6RAV, Hon Secretary replied that Improvements to Membership Services were a regular agenda item for Committee meetings. The colour front cover and back page for Signal had already been mentioned and discussions were in progress with the Archive Group. The Committee welcomed suggestions for further improvements or new services.

12.64 Public Liability Insurance

Mike asked why the PL Insurance cover held by the Society could not be made available to Members on a blanket basis.

Brian Thomas, GW4KYT, Hon Treasurer, explained that as initially provided, the PL insurance required that a Committee Member be present at each event that was to be covered. After negotiation, the terms were amended such that the Committee must approve each event that was to be covered. This is the current situation and blanket cover is not therefore possible.

Stuart McKinnon, G0TBI, Chairman, stated that the Committee encouraged Members to host VMARS stands at shows and rallies and would not unreasonably withhold approval. He reminded the meeting that VMARS stands were for the sole purpose of publicising the Society, exhibiting and demonstrating equipment. Private trading from Society stands was not allowed.

13. Closure of Meeting

There being no further business, Stuart McKinnon, G0TBI, Chairman, thanked Members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 1145 hours BST.

A full version of the draft AGM minutes may be obtained from the Hon Secretary, John Keeley, G6RAV at the end of August.

Sending in articles, news items, letters and advertisements for VMARS Publications

Please send copy to Colin Guy, G4DDI, by post or e-mail,
Hawthorn Folly,
Cul – de – Sac, Stickford
Boston PE22 8EY
+44(0)1205 480006 g4ddi@vmars.org.uk

The copy deadline for the next issue of the News Sheet is **15th August**. For articles for the next issue of Signal the deadline is **9th August**, but copy would be appreciated as far in advance as possible.

Copyright Notice

The VMARS News Sheet is a publication of the Vintage and Military Amateur Radio Society. Copyright remains vested in the authors, **thus no material in this News Sheet may be copied and published elsewhere, in part or in full, by any means, without the express permission of the author**. This may be sought either from the author direct, or from the News Sheet Editor, Broniek Wedzicha, M0DAF.

Applications for Membership

We wish to welcome the following new applicants for VMARS membership:

Name, Callsign (Region)	Interests
Mr DB Delanoy, G3FOQ Norton, Suffolk	I am a member of the Duxford Radio Society (DRS) and a major contributor to the DRS Journal. My special interest is aircraft navigation and associated equipment. I am a member of RAFARS (4163) and the RSGB. I subscribe to 'Radio Bygones'
Mr CR Tuckley, G8TMV Cambridge	QRP, vintage, contests
Mr C Parker, G6BDM Apperley, Gloucestershire	Portable and mobile operation on HF using a range of ex-military rigs
Mr S Slack Whitchurch, Hampshire	Collection and repair of Clansman radio, for main purpose of bolstering the Army Cadet’s radio inventory (just joined ACF, was REME tels tech).
Mr E Edsvik, VE3FSK Pickering, Ontario	Military radio collection
Mr M Driessen, ON8PO Lanaken, Belgium	Radio from WW2 until 1990
Ian Keyser, G3ROO Dover, Kent	Spysets and manpacks
Mr S Hogan, M1SPH Chichester, West Sussex	Larkspur (any) VHF - HF. Radar (any). Rapier missile system

[Membership rules require names of applicants for membership to be published, before they are formally accepted as members. This allows existing members to object, if they wish. If you want to object to any of the above, please write to our Hon Sec, John Keeley – Ed.

Events Diary

The diary is a list of events which are either ones where VMARS is formally represented (**bold**), or those where there is known to be a reasonable chance of finding or seeing vintage electronic items (plain). It is not intended to be a complete list of all available events (which can be found on the internet). Information is checked as far as is practical, but we can't guarantee its accuracy – its always best to check with the contact person if you are travelling a long way to attend.

Date (2007)	Event	Location	Contact	Type A=Amateur, M= Mil. V=Vintage (non radio)	VMARS Attending
5 th September	Telford Hamfest	Enginuity Technology Centre Telford TF8 7DU	Martyn G3UKV 01952 255416 www.telfordhamfest.co.uk	A	Many expected
12 th September	Boot Fair and Open Day at the Muckleburgh Collection	Muckleburgh Collection Military Museum Weybourne Norfolk	Bob Finch G0HYZ 01263 838198 No traders	V/M/A	Many expected

Advertisements

Advertisements are welcome from all members, and also non-members and traders. The latter are indicated by "(NM" or "(T)" after their contact details.

FOR SALE: 1 x 250 W Clansman RF Amp. Not tested but has not been opened or messed about with. £300

1 x RF Tuner for the above. £200

1 x VRC 321 HF Transmitter Receiver. Not tested but again untouched. £40

1 x PR320 Tested and seems to work OK. £35

1 x Full set of leads including headphones PTT and 2 x speakers. £30

1 x Large box of Clansman leads. £10

1 x set heavy duty power leads with large brass plugs. £20

A number of aerial bases assorted types, some screws missing. £2 each

A number of mains isolation transformers, Lids off etc but otherwise seem OK. £10

1 x Set Penthouse lighting kit 240 Volts. Very good condition but missing a lead. £55

2 x set Penthouse lightning kit 24 Volts. 1 not too bad, other a bit ropy but all work. £50

If anyone wants all the items, I am sure we could come to an arrangement. The prices here are very cheap but all needs to go as I have to have a clear out. XYL pressure.

Fred Day M0RFD frederick.day@btinternet.com

FOR SALE: Over the next month or two, I shall be relinquishing some of my collection, not that I want to, but I have lost a serious piece of real estate that was part of my storage. It is now impossible for me to store at home.

AR88 with meter (not original, white in colour). This is the one I use with my ET4336. I have another AR88 that is going in its place. £60.

RA17 various. Talk to me.

C11 HP TX and PSU for same. Need TLC. First £175 secures.

GRC9. Complete with brand new (NOS) French PSU and many accessories. £375

Please note that if there is no initial interest, these items will appear elsewhere for sale.

**Stuart McKinnon G0TBI 01384 872157
stuartjmckinnon@aol.com**

WANTED: Webbing set for the WS38. Anyone able to help with one or provide a lead as to who can supply.

**Pete Shepherd G7DXV 01375 640618
Pete.shepherd4@btinternet.com**

WANTED: I wonder if Members recall the TYPE 73A indicator that I presume had been sold in the March 2009 issue of the News Sheet. If you do, or know of one, please call me. Appropriate finders fee paid.

**Stuart McKinnon G0TBI 01384 872157
stuartjmckinnon@aol.com**

WANTED: RCA Dynamotor DM28 for BC348. Large filter capacitor and 200 Ω dimmer pot for BC348Q. Have for swaps DM21B dynamotor for BC312, BC433G original compass plug, bowden and panel. Ceramic knife switch ART13 aerial. USA LS3 speaker.

Dennis Parsonage 01623 481263

WANTED: Any information on the Cleartone MB7000 repeater unit. This was a police motorcycle unit, which contains a Cleartone CH7000 vhf radio and CM650 uhf radio. I have the manuals for the radios and the EPROM firmware. It is info on the repeater unit I am looking for. Does anyone have a Cleartone CM650 with a keypad and display and/or a front panel unit for the CH7000 I could borrow or purchase?

Colin Guy G4DDI 01205 480006 g4ddi@vmars.org.uk

WANTED: Transformer, stores ref ZA44293 from Supply Unit Rectifier No 24 (ZA42225). This is the PSU used with the R216 receiver.

Also knobs used on the above PSU.

Chris Cooper 0118 979 1488 chrisacooper@iee.org

WANTED: Would any Member who has a scrap dial for the receiver section of a CNY-2 transmitter/receiver (or even a scrap receiver section) please get in touch with me? Some 'numpty' had seen fit to remove the complete dial and gear drive from mine, necessitating the bodge of a home brew dial which, while it works fine, does not look right. Thanks.

Brian Murfitt M1JLM bmurfitt@bulldoghome.com