

THE VMARS NEWS SHEET

A publication of the Vintage and Military Amateur Radio Society

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www.vmars.org.uk

M0VMWV

Affiliated to the Radio Society of Great Britain

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Pete Shepherd G7DXV on the VMARS stand at the Canvey Rally.
Report on page 4

VMARS Container Sale and Members Auction

Saturday 26th April 2014
Rosswood Farm, Baginton
10.30 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.

The final tranche of equipment from the Estate of John Coggins G3TFC will be auctioned at the storage site as before. Photographs of at least some of the lots will be published in the News Sheet ahead of the auction. In addition, Members are invited to bring along their own equipment to be auctioned.

From our Chairman

Australia's Coastwatchers

Last year, VMARS Member Ray Robinson VK2NO wrote about the centenary of the Amalgamated Wireless Australasia AWA Company. Ray's interesting article reminded me that AWA was the manufacturer that produced equipment used by the wireless reporting stations run by the Royal Australian Navy to monitor and report Japanese military movements in the Pacific Islands during WWII. The story of the Australian Coastwatchers has always fascinated me since I first became aware of their existence after seeing the film "Father Goose" in the 1960s, in which Cary Grant played the part of a whisky swilling and reluctant Coastwatcher stranded on a remote Pacific Island, with Trevor Howard playing his Royal Australian Navy wireless contact in Port Moresby, New Guinea.



A wireless telegraphist operator, probably Sergeant (Sgt) William 'Billy' Bennett, MM, British Solomon Islands Protectorate Defence Force (BSIPDF), operating an AWA 3BZ Teleradio at the Seghe coastwatchers' station ZFJ5. The station was commanded by Captain DG Kennedy, BSIPDF. Sgt Bennett, a Solomon Islander born in the New Georgia area, trained as a wireless operator in Fiji and, following the war, joined the Solomon Islands Broadcasting Service as an announcer and producer. After retirement, he was appointed Chairman of the Board of the Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation

A radio reporting organisation was originally set up by the Australian Commonwealth Naval Board following the First World War after being persuaded by Captain JG Clare, of the Royal Australian Navy, that the islands to the North and Northeast of Australia were potential centres of insurrection. The islands were important to the Australian economy, being home to many cattle stations, plantations and mining resources but, by the 1930s, they were among the territories that were of interest to the Japanese nationalist 'Nanshinron' or 'Southern Expansion Doctrine', which was being promoted by the Imperial Japanese Navy at the time. To begin with, Coastwatchers were recruited from cattle-station managers, planters, mine managers and missionaries who had strong local connections and knowledge but, by 1935, the growing threat from expansionist Japan led to a large scale revision and enlargement of the Coastwatch organisation by the Australian Director of Naval Intelligence, Commander RB Long. Long appointed a retired naval

officer, Lieutenant Commander Eric Feldt, to undertake the reorganisation and transform it into a significant source of military intelligence. New Australian Coastwatch wireless stations were established on New Britain Island, to the east of New Guinea, and into the chain of about one thousand Solomon Islands, a decision that proved crucial during the later battles fought by US forces to dislodge Japanese occupying troops. Aware that the name 'Coastwatcher' was a clear indication of the organisation's primary purpose, one of Feldt's earliest decisions was to have the name removed from official documents and for the organisation to be known henceforth only by the codename 'Ferdinand'. Ferdinand was a popular children's character noted for sitting quietly under trees and smelling the flowers, which Feldt thought was an appropriate simile for the activities his Coastwatchers would undertake.



Teleradio 3BZ transmitter

The supply, installation of and maintenance contract for equipment for the newly enlarged 'Ferdinand' intelligence gathering organisation was given to the part-nationalised AWA Company, which developed a new portable wireless station, designated the Teleradio1, for the project. The wireless station consisted of a separate transmitter and receiver unit powered by batteries or by a pedal driven generator mounted on a bicycle frame. A petrol generator derived from a motor car engine was also made available and additional operators and technicians, who were AWA employees, were appointed. By 1940, the Teleradio station had been further developed to become the model 3A, still in separate boxes but now with a crystal controlled transmitter having both CW and AM capability using class B modulation and an 807 in the PA. With remarkable foresight, the AWA designers made further significant design changes to include a general coverage 200 kc/s to 30 Mc/s receiver with a Muirhead slow motion tuning drive and provision for a crystal channel. The transmitter was little changed from the earlier version but power could now be supplied from 40–60 c/s AC at 105–130 V or 200–260 V. It could also be operated from DC at the same voltages. A further option was to run on batteries which supplied HT from a vibrator in the separate power supply unit, which additionally housed a loudspeaker. Protective removable front covers were secured with sprung latches providing protection during transportation. The AWA Teleradio 3BZ, introduced in 1942, had a redesigned transmitter and more crystal channels available. These improvements made the Teleradio ideal for withstanding transportation over difficult terrain and for operating on fixed frequencies from unreliable power sources in the field. In the 1940s and, due to the bulk and weight of the wireless equipment and its ancillaries, the term portable, when applied to radio stations in the South Pacific, frequently meant transportation by several local porters or pack mules

because of the inaccessible operational locations that had to be used. Most 'Ferdinand' Coastwatcher stations were allocated frequencies in the 6 Mc/s band which was always referred to as 'X Frequency' and operators also had spare crystals for use on secondary frequencies if required for operational reasons.

Around 600 wireless operators worked in 'Ferdinand', many located on isolated islands occupied by the Japanese from early in 1942. They were largely recruited from Australian and New Zealand nationals, some of whom were licenced radio amateurs, but some local islanders also took on the role and were later joined by US Marine and US Army operators. These men, and one woman, were, in effect, running independent local intelligence gathering organisations in enemy occupied territory and with agents recruited from the local population. Their role was to observe and report on enemy ship and aircraft movements and on the location and build-up of Japanese military assets. Most Australians working in the islands were evacuated before the Japanese occupation, but a few stayed behind as Coastwatchers and, where possible, were supplied from Australia by air drops or by sea. This became increasingly difficult as the Japanese strengthened their military domination of the region, requiring many Coastwatchers to rely on foraging and support from the islanders. One Australian planter who had stayed behind was captured, tortured and executed soon after the Japanese arrival, prompting Lieutenant Commander Eric Feldt to arrange that civilian operatives working under his command would be appointed to the RANVR, assigned military ranks and supplied with uniforms in an effort to provide them with some protection if they were captured. This helped a little, but most Japanese occupiers regarded captured Coastwatchers as spies, which resulted in an official death toll of thirty eight. The Japanese were fully aware of the presence of Coastwatchers in the islands and they made extensive resources available to seek them out and disrupt their operations. For local civilians who had provided the Coastwatchers with support, capture by the Japanese meant almost certain summary execution.

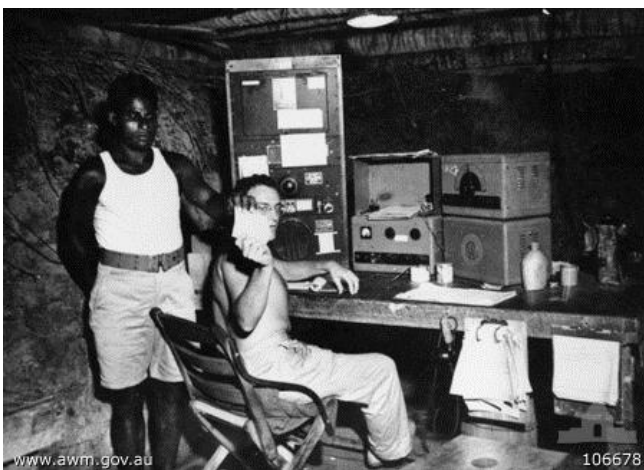
two letter groups, which made it more secure than single letter substitution, and had been used extensively by the British in the Boer War and in WWI because it required no special decryption equipment and was reasonably fast. It was later replaced with a code specially developed by 'Ferdinand' cryptographers and called 'Bull'. When Japanese forces were observed massing for attacks, it was not uncommon for 'Ferdinand' messages to be sent in plain language in order to save precious time and provide the defenders with the maximum time to prepare and counter-attack.



Coastwatchers moving their radio equipment through the kunai grass. This group had just landed near Oro Bay on the PNG mainland (AWM 127577)



A coast-watching radio at work in the jungle. This one, near Dobadura on the Papua New Guinean mainland, north of the Kokoda Track, shows how many parts there are to the machine and how difficult it would have been to transport it. (AWM 015364)



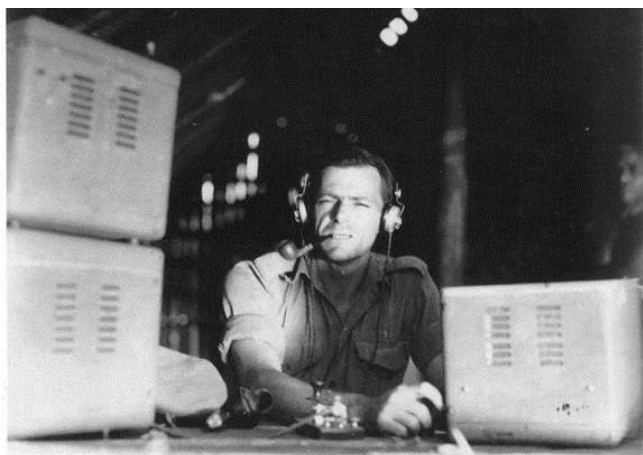
Lunga, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands. 1943-10. The base radio station dugout of the Coastwatchers Ken network in the Solomon Islands. The equipment operated by this station is (left in rack) an HRO RAS Army type transmitter/receiver and (right) an AWA 3BZ Teleradio for emergency use

To start with, radio messages were sent in Morse code using an early encryption method called 'Playfair', which had been developed by Charles Wheatstone in 1854. It encoded

Another role of the Coastwatchers was to locate and arrange the recovery of downed allied and enemy airmen and shipwrecked sailors. 'Ferdinand' was instrumental in the rescue of 26 year-old Lieutenant, Junior Grade, later President John F Kennedy when PT-109, the Patrol Torpedo PT Boat that he was commanding, was rammed and sunk by a Japanese destroyer. The resulting explosion was seen by Coastwatcher RAN Sub-Lieutenant Arthur Evans from his concealed observation post on Mount Veve volcano on Kolombangara Island. Evans received a coded message about the missing PT boat and, believing it likely that he had witnessed its destruction, he dispatched two islanders in a dugout canoe to a nearby island where they found that Kennedy and ten crew members had survived. Kennedy famously scratched details on a coconut shell which the

Islanders took to Rendova, an allied military base 40 miles away, and the crew were eventually picked up by another PT boat.

One famous 'Ferdinand' Coastwatcher, who was located on the northern tip of the Japanese-occupied Solomon Island of Bougainville, was Jack Read. Bougainville contained large concentrations of Japanese Naval and Airforce units and, with a second Coastwatcher Paul Mason, situated on the southern end of the island, regularly sent urgent signals to the US Navy, initially via Port Moresby but, as the situation developed, direct to US Navy ships in plain language, giving advanced warning of approaching attacks on Guadalcanal. In peace-time Read had been an Assistant District Officer on the island and Mason a plantation manager, so they knew the island and the local population well. Their concealed observation posts overlooked assembly areas for Japanese Navy battle groups and departure routes for Japanese Air Force attack squadrons heading South for Guadalcanal, about 350 miles away. The real-time intelligence signals provided the US defenders with sufficient time to make good preparations of their defences and to make effective counter-attacks. On one occasion, Read reported 40 enemy bombers leaving Bougainville to attack Guadalcanal, with only 18 bombers returning. Both men reported the build-up and passage of a large Japanese fleet of 61 ships, including 10 troop transporters, tankers and warships moving south and clearly intended to retake Guadalcanal. Due to the intelligence received from Read and Mason, the Japanese operation was a failure. This intelligence was credited by General Patch, US Commanding General at Guadalcanal in a signal he sent to 'Ferdinand' in which he said: *Your magnificent and courageous work has contributed in great measure to success of operations on Guadalcanal.* Following the Japanese losses in these operations they mounted an intensive campaign against the Solomon Island based 'Ferdinand' Coastwatchers, resulting in most of them being urgently evacuated, captured or killed.



Jack Read, legendary Coastwatcher on Bougainville, on the air with his Teleradio (Ken Wright)

By 1945, the exemplary courage of the Coastwatchers had made a major contribution to ending the Pacific War and 'Ferdinand' was disbanded. On 26th October 1961, Commander Feldt made a speech in which he described the contribution of 'Ferdinand' to winning the Pacific War. A transcript of that informative speech can be read online through the following Royal Historical Society of Queensland link:

http://espace.library.uq.edu.au/eserv/UQ:212638/s00855804_1961_1962_6_4_762.pdf

Further reading about the Australian Coastwatchers can be found online at:

<http://www.wv2australia.gov.au/coastwatcher/index.html>

<http://www.pngaa.net/Library/Bougainville.htm>

or from the following books:-

The Coast Watchers Commander, Eric A Feldt RAN
ISBN 0-14-014926-0

Lonely Vigil, Coastwatchers of the Solomons. Walter Lord
ISBN 1-59114-466-3

I am grateful to Ray Robinson VK2NO for help in compiling this item.

Ian Underwood MOYMK

Canvey Island Rally 2nd February 2014

Sunday, 2nd February, saw the 29th annual Canvey Island, Essex, radio rally. This is one of the first rallies of the year and is held in high regard by those who live in the counties of Essex, Kent, Suffolk and the London area.

Last year was great fun following heavy snow falls, but this year a big contrast: light winds, slightly cold and damp and a big turnout of punters. The doors open sharp at 10.30 and the public start to pick at the bargains to be found.

Many WWII items were to be found along with Larkspur and the odd Clansman bit. I did spot a KW77 receiver at a bargain for £30. Did I buy it? Na. Got three already. There was also a Gonsett in the bargains, but how many rigs do you need to own. It is amazing how these gems turn up when and where they are least expected.

I arrived early to put on a VMARS display stand with the hope of attracting some new members. A large number of visitors discussed with me the equipment on display (see cover photograph) and were asking general questions about VMARS, our excellent website and archive facilities, along with general discussion about the older equipment.

This year I put on a basic American theme and tried to keep it simple. In the photograph you can see a trio of Hallicrafters receivers: the 1939 S19R Sky Buddy, 1938 S 22R Sky Rider Marine, and the 1946 S40B. Above them are Knight T150 and Multi-Elmac AF-67 transmitters.

I was pleased to say hello and chat with many VMARS Members. It is great to see VMARS Members at all the venues I attend and I believe VMARS is getting stronger than ever in the world of amateur radio. I counted no less than 17 VMARS Members whom I could identify or who made themselves known to me.

I hope we see more next year at this great rally.

Pete Shepherd G7DXV

Bletchley Park

Like many VMARS Members, I have taken a keen interest in the recent BBC TV and Radio 4 reports concerning the tensions between the management of Bletchley Park and The National Museum of Computing NMoC, also located at Bletchley Park, but in Block H, well away from the main house. For those who have not managed to see or hear them, you will find links to the BBC news reports on the VMARS website. There is nothing new about this argument, which has been raging for many months and is fundamentally about money, but the interest of the BBC has brought it to greater public attention.

The current tension between the two organisations concerns the availability of Bletchley Park visitor access to the replica of the wartime Colossus electronic computer, which belongs to the National Museum of Computing. The two museums are entirely separate, with the National Museum of Computing leasing land from the Bletchley Park Trust at an annual rent of £100,000, and both organisations requiring regular independent income to support their activities. BP have received a Lottery Fund grant of £8m to turn the code-breaking site into a 'world class heritage site' and both organisations have received funding from computer companies like Google and McAfee and from others. I think it is fair to say that The National Museum of Computing is probably struggling to find the funds to invest in its own Bletchley Park site and will be unable to match the major improvements happening on the rest of the site, which includes refurbishment of the famous huts and the iconic mansion. Having invested the cash into creating a more exciting visitor attraction, it is surely not unreasonable for the Bletchley Park Trust to expect to benefit from the income that the improvements will generate. Much of the regeneration is taking place adjacent to the recently built RSGB National Radio Centre, also based on the site, but this centre is entirely funded by the RSGB and is not dependent on visitor income.

Most of us accept that Colossus was the triumphant final chapter of code breaking at Bletchley and is an integral and important part of the Bletchley Park story, so should be a part of the visitor experience to the site. The National Museum of Computing recognise its code breaking heritage, but view Colossus more importantly as the foundation of electronic computing and, therefore, an important baseline for the heritage of modern computers. The complication of having two organisations with different aims is compounded by the different levels of expenditure each one is capable of making to improve the facilities at Bletchley Park and I would speculate that this is part of the problem. Moving visitors from the newly refurbished area surrounding the Mansion to Block H is unlikely to fulfil the vision of the BP Trustees and, more importantly, of the Lottery Fund.

Since its inception in 1999 VMARS, has enjoyed many excellent events at Bletchley Park at a time when its heritage future was in serious doubt. Our last attendance at the "Are You Listening" event organised by BP last October, went extremely well and was appreciated by all parties. VMARS has had, and still enjoys, an excellent relationship with the staff and management of BP and would like to continue to do so. We must recognise that Bletchley Park needs to change radically if it is to survive and prosper and there will soon come a time when it will have to support itself financially. It can only do this by attracting visitors and commercial support. When Iain Standen, the current CEO of Bletchley Park, first joined the management team a couple of years ago, VMARS was invited to attend a reception and formed a favourable impression of the ideas and plans that were being talked about. Later, following changes to arrangements for events held on the site and for the proposed closure of private museums there, the Society wrote to the CEO and asked for assurances that the 'Y Stations' would be suitably represented in the future. We received a fairly non-committal response but, since that time, the role of the 'Y Stations' has been mentioned by Mr Standen on several occasions as being a crucial part of the BP story, so we will have to wait and see. Like any commercial organisation, BP promote their vision for the future, but they are under no obligation to publicise their strategies or management tactics to achieve it and VMARS has no right to demand to know what they are. I strongly believe that the VMARS policy should be to quietly

encourage both the Bletchley Park Trust and the National Museum of Computing to reach an accommodation which will see the Colossus included in the Bletchley Park visitor experience. With the notable exception of Colossus, an historical electronic innovation linked firmly to the technology of the era, computers are most definitely not part of the constitutional aims and ethos of the Society. VMARS future co-operation at Bletchley Park lies with the story of code breaking, the 'Y Stations' and the incredible people who worked there, whatever the final outcome of the Colossus difficulties.

Contribution from Claire Urwin at Bletchley Park

[The following was sent for publication in reply to a letter to Claire at BP from Stuart McKinnon GOTBI... Ed]

First, thank you for your understanding and for taking the time to contact me personally; it was very much appreciated. Sorry it has taken a bit longer than hoped to respond, it has been both hectic and draining the last couple of days. Below is what you can send out to VMARS, and simply that we were very unhappy about the BBC report, and considered it both poor reporting and factually incorrect.

Volunteers

Tony Carroll has not been sacked. He continues to be a valued volunteer at the Bletchley Park Trust. He was asked to stop giving public tours as he had refused to provide the shorter tour revised by the volunteer guides, which no longer goes into any buildings on the site. He continues to work voluntarily for the Trust in the Education Department, providing tours for school groups.

The Trust is enormously grateful to its army of volunteers, without whom it could not offer a personal, knowledgeable service to visitors. The Trust is currently investing in high quality training to further improve visitors' experience as the huge, much-needed, Heritage Lottery Funded £8m restoration project approaches completion. This project will bring the many historic buildings on the site back to a state of good repair and create an inspiring experience for its ever-increasing numbers of visitors. This will create a world-class museum and heritage site which is a fitting memorial to the heroic code-breakers of Bletchley Park making the site much more sustainable and accessible to growing numbers of visitors.

Revised tour

Almost a year ago, the guided tour on offer to all visitors was reduced from 90 minutes to one hour. The tour was revised by the volunteer tour guides themselves, and the tour no longer goes into any building on the site. This was necessary to allow the site to accommodate ever increasing numbers of visitors, and to broaden the appeal of the guided tour to a wider audience, including families.

All the best and thank you for all your support and hard work over the year.

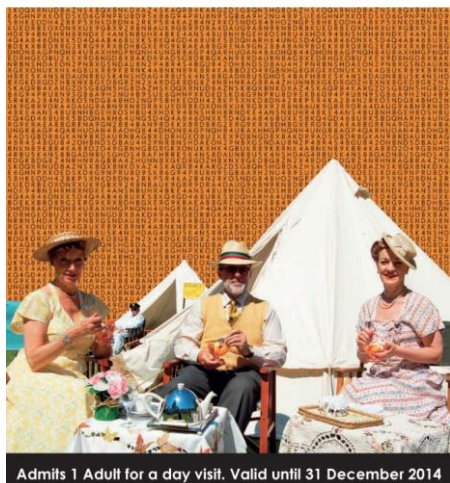
[The Committee is also grateful to John Pether and Dave Wells for their extensive and balanced advice regarding developments at BP ... Ed]

Bletchley Park 're-enactor' passes

Members may be interested to know that Claire Urwin, our contact at BP, has sent us a supply of 're-enactor passes' to allow those who had participated in events as re-enactors (which includes participation at VMARS events held at BP) to have the opportunity to visit during 2014 to see the work

being carried out for themselves. Any Member who would like such a pass should contact Stuart McKinnon G0TBI

BLETCHLEY PARK Re-enactor Pass



Admits 1 Adult for a day visit. Valid until 31 December 2014

Dambusters Hamfest 4th May 2014, Thorpe Camp

This year's Dambusters Hamfest will be held on Sunday May 4th at Thorpe Camp Visitor Centre, Tattershall Thorpe, Lincolnshire LN4 4PE. Entry to the Visitor Centre is £3 per person, including museum admission. There is adequate car parking on site. There will be no additional charge for traders

– outdoor pitches within the camp are free. Visitors arriving in vintage/military vehicles are especially welcome and a call to the organizer (below) will reserve a space within the camp for you. Limited overnight camping/caravan pitches are available by prior arrangement. The NAFFI will be open for drinks and light snacks; the Blue Bell Inn is within walking distance of Thorpe Camp and serves excellent food and a good choice of real ales, but they do get very busy on Sundays and booking is strongly advised (01526 342206, www.bluebell-inn.com).

This unique event is of particular interest to vintage radio enthusiasts as it is held at the home of net-control station M0TCM and the shack will be open and operating on HF and VHF. There will be the usual talk-in on 145.55 MHz using our special events call sign GB4TCM; we will also be monitoring 51.3 MHz and 3615 kHz for anyone arriving in military vehicles. Anyone who would like to contact the station on another frequency or band please contact G4DDI in advance and we will listen for you. Anyone operating a mobile 19 Set?

Please note that there have been rumours circulating on the internet that this year's event has been cancelled – these rumours are totally malicious and the event will be going ahead as planned. The contact details published in the last two issues of RadCom have been incorrect – those given below are the correct details.

For more information and map please visit www.dambusters-hamfest.net.

For information and bookings please contact Tony Nightingale G3ZPU 01507 527835, tony.nightingale@yahoo.co.uk.

Colin Guy G4DDI

VMARS Subscriptions Final Reminder

The deadline for renewing your subscription for 2014 was 21st January. If you have not yet renewed, this will be your last copy of the VMARS News Sheet and you will not receive any further issues of Signal.

To renew your subscription, please send your payment by cheque to the Membership Secretary, Pete Shepherd G7DXV, or by bank transfer whilst returning your renewal form so that records may be updated.

If you are interested in Marconi history ...

If Marconi history appeals to you, you are recommended to have a look at: <http://www.marconicalling.co.uk/>.

This link relates to artefacts in the Marconi Collection housed at Balliol College, Oxford. It was originally to be held and displayed in Chelmsford but, with the demise of GEC and Marconi, the funds and premises were not forthcoming. The collection was then donated to Oxford University for cataloguing and safe keeping. The material on view in Marconi Calling apparently represents the best of the Marconi Collection, however, it is only part of the overall archive and includes many thousands of documents and

over 250 artefacts. Marconi planned to transfer ownership and management of its unique collection to a trust whose functions would include consideration of requests for the loan of artefacts and other material for exhibitions, however, this did not happen due to the subsequent demise of GEC and Marconi. Marconi was part of English Electric until 1968 when an amalgamation with GEC took place.

There is, however, a collection of other artefacts displayed in a local museum at Sandford Mill, Chelmsford.

<http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/sandfordmill/sandford/sandford.htm>
This link shows a few of the artefacts held by the Museums Department of Chelmsford City Council at their Museum of

Industrial Archaeology, Sandford Mill, Chelmsford. Items have been donated by former employees of, and directly by, Marconi Communications, Marconi Radar and Marconi International Marine which were based in Chelmsford and by former Radio Officers. The display of items is being gradually developed as Sandford Mill is not a fully developed museum; it is an equipment holding area and is used to teach science to local schools and, as such, is open to the public for only a few days per year. Five complete ship's radio rooms from five different decades of the 20th century are now on display having been created by the Friends of Chelmsford Museums.



<http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/sandfordmill/science-2013/science-2013.htm>
 This link relates to Science Discovery Day at the Sandford Mill Museum, Chelmsford last September. On that day, a privately owned set of military vehicles containing army communications equipment was on display as well as

amateur radio operations by Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society (photographs above).

Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society operate from Sandford Mill on each open day, so this is an opportunity for an interesting day out. The planned open days for 2014 are

Saturday, 26th April 2014

see www.chelmsford.gov.uk/sandfordmill and follow *Marconi Day* link

Sunday, 3rd August 2014

Commemorating the "UK entering WW1" 2.00-5.00 p.m.

Sunday Afternoons

10th, 17th and 24th August 2014, 2.00-5.00 p.m.

Sunday, 28th September 2014 (date to be confirmed)

Science Discovery Day

See http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/future-meetings/index.htm_for latest information

Has anybody in VMARS been and visited this museum? It might be good for a day out, perhaps. Chelmsford is also not a bad place, as I recall.



Sandford Mill is on Sandford Mill Road, off Chelmer Village Way, Chelmer Village, Chelmsford, CM2 6NY. 01245 475498

All pictures are provided by Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society at www.g0mwt.org.uk and reproduced with permission.

Mike Buckley M1CCF

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

Please send copy to Colin Guy, G4DDI, by post or e-mail,

7 Herrick Court,
 Clinton Park,
 Tattershall, Lincs. LN4 4QU
 Tel 01526 344715 g4ddi@vmars.org.uk

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

Saturday AM Net-Controller's Rota

Date	1 st op	2 nd op	3 rd op
15 th Feb	M0YMK	G3XGW	M0TCM
22 nd Feb	G3XGW	M0TCM	M0DAF
1 st Mar	M0TCM	M0DAF	G0TBI
8 th Mar	M0DAF	G0TBI	G4GEN
15 th Mar	G0TBI	G4GEN	G4BQF
22 nd Mar	G4GEN	G4BQF	GW8TBG
29 th Mar	G4BQF	GW8TBG	G8AQN

Whenever possible Ian Underwood M0YMK posts a recording of the Saturday AM Net from his QTH in West Sussex on the VMARS website:

http://www.vmars.org.uk/Regular_NETS_Details

Committee Notices**VMARS Annual General Meeting 2014**

Notice is hereby given that the VMARS Annual General Meeting for 2014 will take place at the Royal Signals Museum, Blandford Forum, on Saturday 9th August 2014, 10.30 a.m.–1.00 p.m.

**Advertisements**

FOR SALE: Transmitter-Receiver Radio type 618T-3, 110D/5821-00-604-3307 Serial No. 4. With Collins Control Unit type 714E Serial no. 2134, FSN5821-00-019-8405. In good condition. £50.

Transmitter-Receiver type TR5/ARC52, 5821-99-942-8542, Serial No. 3409. With Collins Control Unit type C1607/ARC52, 5821-99-942-8543, Serial No. 155. In good condition. £50.

Plessey HF Receiver type PR1553A, Serial No. 157, 5820-99523-1377, weight 38 lbs. £50.

SEM25 German Transmitter-Receiver, 5820-12-141-1255, complete with webbing cover, ATU 5820-12-141-1252 and box of spare fuses 5820-12-141-1251. £50

Storno CQF632 large mains wall-mounted base station. Low band FM, with 10 channel remote, speaker and microphone. Crystalled frequencies 70.26, 70.3, 70.325, 70.35, 70.375, 70.4, 70.425, 70.45, 70.475 MHz. £50

Hatfield Audio measuring set type 1017A serial B2694. Complete, £30.

Members who are travelling some distance to the AGM should book overnight accommodation well in advance to avoid disappointment at this busy time of year.

Members are advised that the Museum is within Blandford Camp and it is necessary for you to carry personal ID, and to let us have your name and car registration to facilitate entry at the gate. Please send this information to Stuart McKinnon G0TBI by the end of June.

Refreshments on arrival, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided, and the VMARS Lecture will take place at 2.00 p.m. Details to follow.

Applications for Membership

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

Name, Callsign (Region)	Interests
Mr WJ Moore G8DOG West Midlands	WWII to Clansman radio equipment.
Mr PJ Russell Warwickshire	Collecting and restoring military equipment.
Mr BJ Bonnaud Worcestershire	40s through to 60s equipment. RA17.
Mr M Windibank 2E0MWI Kent	Military radio systems. Owns Land Rover Series III FFR.
Mr AC Ryall GW7KRY Monmouthshire	Vintage valve radio. Panda Radio and KW Electronics.

[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.]

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Wooden box containing 6 scales, Gyro Angle Plotting Ref No. 6B/491, BMCo, 1953. NOS £20

WANTED: Have five NOS extension cards in wooden box for an unknown ship radio, 5985-99-525-8592. Would exchange for any Redifon GA481N RF Amp extension cards, 5820-99-527-1981/2.

Would prefer buyer collects or arrange courier as equipment is heavy and easily damaged. All sensible prices as have recently acquired a 2½ hundredweight Redifon Ships transceiver that needs a lot of work so need the space.

Brook Verrall G0VEB 01626 773525 (South Devon)
brook60@live.co.uk

WANTED: I am looking for the matching modulator/PSU for a Labgear LG300 Transmitter. Condition immaterial and does not need to be complete so long as it can be restored.

Pete Shepherd G7DXV, 01375 640618 or 0775 461 0948
pete.shepherd4@btinternet.com