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## *Hints and Tips.* Antony Wedgwood GOTJD

### **Line plugs**



I imagine that most of us would prefer to use a familiar headset or speaker when trying out an old radio, but have been confronted with a bewildering variety of output connectors. Naturally, you will not want to compromise originality and, with patience, you can usually find the right plug to fit the set. But you then have the problem of connecting it to your accessory of choice.

For what it's worth, I have tried to standardize on the relatively modern range of locking audio connectors that are widely used on modern equipment. The free connector - a socket, if you're strict about gender - is fine, but you do need a free plug as well, for connection to the plug which goes into the set. The plug is meant to be chassis mounted and needs a cover to convert it into something that can be used on the end of a cable.

Surprisingly or not, the size and thread of these chassis plugs is exactly that of the cover for a standard WW2 military jack plug, as used on the keys for the WS 18, 19 and many other sets. These jack plugs are very easy to find at rallies (the keys are quite another matter, of course). Put the two together, and your problem is solved.

But there's no stopping the march of progress! The more recent version of the audio plugs seems to have adopted a finer, probably metric, thread. Take a jack plug cover along with you when you buy them, and stock up now.

### **A13 batteries**

Those with A13s may already know this, but if not, you can get still get batteries to fit the set. They are available from Johnson's of Leeds as NSN 6140-99-152-3590 and have exactly the same specifications and size as the originals – except that they're green, lighter and don't leak. The ones I got recently are dated 1995 and still hold a decent charge, which is more than you can say for the originals by now.