

Welcome to Communication number three, firstly, sorry for the delay in mailing this month. the reason is explained on the last page. Before we get down to this months DX news I would like to announce some club news: a) As from now associative membership to the TDC has been abolished as it was found to be impractical and anyway little response was received to it. b) TDC certificates are no longer being mailed, in future membership will be acknowledged by mail and in the bulletin.

DX NEWS AND INFORMATION

AUSTRALIA - Radio Australia have altered their transmission schedule to the UK and Europe. They now broadcast from 03.15 hours GMT on 11765 kHz and 9570 kHz; the Japan base service to S & E Asia is now on 9515 kHz.

GERMANY - Deutschlandfunk, 5 Koln 51, Lindenallee 7, West Germany, broadcast in English to the British Isles on 1286 kHz (236.5 m) from 18.40 to 19.30 GMT, it is hoped that reception will be greatly improved at this later time. DLF's German language course "Herr Baumann unterwegs" is broadcast on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 17.45 to 18.00 GMT again on 1268 kHz, free booklets for the course can be obtained from the station at the above address. It may be of interest to our European members to know that the American Forces Network (AFN Europe) APO 09745, Frankfurt, broadcasts on the following MW frequencies: 611 kHz, 872 kHz, 935 kHz, 1034 kHz, 1106 kHz, 1142 kHz, 1304 kHz, 1394 kHz, 1502 kHz. Reception reports are confirmed by a QSL card and free programme schedules are available on request.

USSR - Radio Kiev, Radio Centre, Kiev, Ukraine SSR, are broadcasting in English to Europe every Monday, Thursday and Saturday on 6170, 6020 and 5920 kHz from 19.30 to 20.00 and from 22.00 to 22.30 on 241 metres, 1240 kHz medium wave.

KUWAIT - Radio Kuwait, PO Box 397, Kuwait, AG, are now broadcasting in English from 17.00 to 20.00 on 9715 kHz for Asia and on 15415 kHz for Europe.

NETHERLANDS - On doctors' orders the presenter of Radio Nederlands' DX Juke Box, Harry Van Gelder, is having to retire from his job. Dick Speckman now takes over as presenter. On behalf of the TDC committee I would like to thank Harry for his help and great achievements in the hobby over the last few years and wish him all the best for a happy retirement.

CANADA - Radio Canada are now using the BBC transmitters in Great Britain for all their transmissions to Europe and Africa. The English transmissions to Europe are at the following times: 05.30, 06.10, 06.50 and 21.02 GMT and to Africa at 05.30, 06.10, 06.50 and 18.00 GMT.

GREAT BRITAIN - Capital Radio and LBC will shortly be moving to their new MW frequencies of 194 and 261 metres respectively; they have been heard testing during the day but with a lot of interference especially on 194 metres. Radio Hallam (Sheffield and Rotherham areas) is now broadcasting on 194 metres, I have heard them in Twickenham and have already received a very nice QSL letter and lots of info. Also on 194 is Radio City, Liverpool. Metro Radio is heard well on 261 metres in the early morning, they are verifying by letter. Another station on 194m (1546 kHz) is Radio Forth with about 3 kW for Edinburgh. For more information about the IBA local stations or for a transmitter list write to the IBA Engineering Information Department, Crawley Court Winchester, SO21 2QS, England.

TIPS:

STATION	kHz	m	GMT	SINPO	LANGUAGE	OTHER DETAILS
R.D.TV Nat. Chad	4904.5	62	18.45	44433	French	Irregular reception
R.D.TV Togo	5047	60	20.45	44444	French	Fair reception
Radio Ghana, Accra	9545	31	21.30	33433	English	QRM from LA station
Radio RSA	9525	31	21.50	32432	English	QRM
Radio Danascus	9655	31	21.30	33533	English	QRM from janning
Radio Pyongyang Korea	9980	30	19.40	24332	English	Very irregular quick fading
Radio Clube de Pernambuco, Brazil	11875	25	21.05	24423	Portuguse	Very weak, quick fading
Radio Tashkent	11925	25	14.00	544--	English	
Radio Ghana	21545	13	15.20	44544	English	Clear frequency.

Hope these reports are useful to you, no more space for more this month so I've left the MW tips and those from Lennart Frostelid and a new German reporter for next month. I look forward to receiving your reports for inclusion next month.

A DXer is truly in paradise when he is sitting in front of his receiver, his tape recorder whirring, his pencil scribbling and his ear tuned into some elusive LA station. This is what DXing is all about, your receiver and your skill and perseverance. Of course, the whole hobby centres around a good receiver and a perfect as possible, well matched antenna. These are the very basic requirements for someone just starting out on the hobby. As time goes on, however, and he gets more experienced, he will feel the need for extra equipment and lots of things that will make his hobby that more enjoyable and not so tedious. (If any form of DXing can be!).

In this article I hope to give you a few ideas about 'those little extra things'. The most obvious of them all is a good tape recorder. I'm sure many of you have had the experience of trying to get programme details from a new catch when the phone goes, for instance. I think it is essential to keep a tape recorder always connected to a receiver so that when something interferes with a listening session you can just switch it onto record and play it back later. It is also quite amazing how, if you play back a recording of a station that was seemingly drowned by interference and plagued by fading, it is much easier to pick out various words and therefore get the general gist of the broadcast. So, a tape recorder is a very great help in obtaining programme details and is therefore a must!

One of the main preoccupations of the enthusiastic DXer is to obtain verifications from the stations he picks up. To do this, he must write to the station in the first place which is pretty obvious. This requires both time and supplies. It is a tedious business going to the stationers and the post office every other day to get writing necessities. Therefore I suggest that a keen DXer needs a good supply of paper, envelopes, stamps, airmail stickers and international reply coupons. This will probably involve a fair amount of expenditure but it is really worth it, I can assure you. Also of importance to the DXer is the reception report form. It is most exasperating having to write one out every time you are reporting. It is a good idea always to have a good supply of these close at hand. By the way, twenty report forms (in English) can be obtained from the club for 5p plus a large SAE or 2 IRCs for those members in the UK and 2 IRCs or 3 IRCs airmail for our overseas members. I advise you to stock up.

The correct time is also of great importance to the DXer and is one of the most important factors in reporting and logging. An electric clock set to GMT is a relatively small but a most helpful and invaluable extra. One can go on..... a typewriter, English-Spanish/Portugese dictionary, an electric kettle (!), a large ash tray if you like to smoke while DXing, copy of WRTH, pair of headphones, files and folders to keep schedules etc. in (and copies of "Communication!"). These little extras are only to make the DXer's life that bit easier and a few of them are obvious luxuries which are not really necessary. A good DXer can get by without a few of them, but are you prepared to take the risk of being uncomfortable and irritated for hours on end?

SPOTLIGHT ON A RADIO STATION by D.P.Balhatchet TDC Secretary.

This month we feature RADIO AFGHANISTAN

Radio Afghanistan is the official state broadcasting body in Afghanistan. It controls both the home and foreign services. Nearly all the home service programmes are broadcast in the country's two official languages, that is, Pushto and Dari. The foreign service is broadcast in five languages - English, German, Russian, Urdu and Pushto/Dari. English is heard here in Twickenham with moderate to poor reception at 11.30. GMT on 15195 KHz.

Radio Afghanistan has it's transmitting stations at Kabul/Yakatut and Pol-e-Charki. Its most powerful transmitter is 100 Kw. and the weakest, 10. Antennas are either omni-directional or beamed to Europe.

sent. The interval signal of Radio Afghanistan is a melody played on a flute and the opening announcement is 'Da Radio Afghanistan Kabul dai'.

The address is Radio Afghanistan, P.O.Box 544, Kabul. If a correct reception report is sent plus an IRC, a most attractive QSL is sent. If, however, an IRC is not sent, the report will probably receive only a mention on the air. This station and its QSL are really not worth missing. The QSL is most attractive and Afghanistan is, of course, another broadcasting zone. Try tuning in; and learn something.

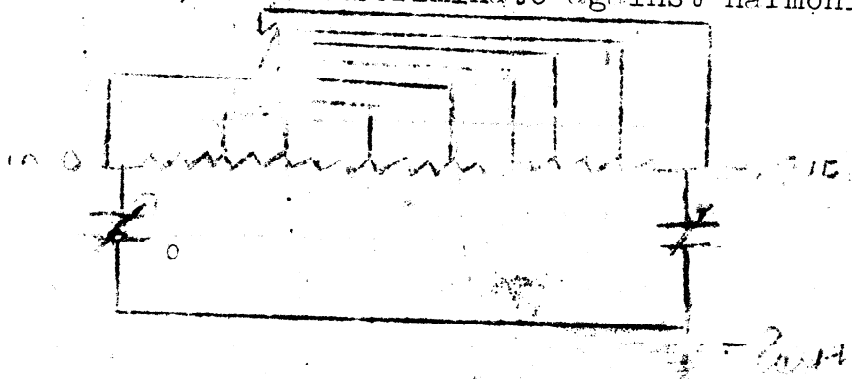
The second article in a series by Mark Lee TDC-006-GB.

This month Mark talks about A.T.U.s and their construction.

of wire A large number of DXers use nothing more than a random length for their aerial. This results in a mismatch between aerial and receiver at most frequencies, since the end impedance of the aerial varies with the frequency. When the aerial happens to be a half-wave or a multiple of a half-wave in length, the end impedance can be very high; the voltage waveform is at a peak and the current waveform is at zero, therefore, by Ohm's law, the impedance must be high. The reverse situation occurs with an aerial which is an odd number of quarter-wavelengths long at a certain frequency. Both situations will cause a mismatch with a receiver having an input impedance of 75 ohms.

The purpose of an ATU is to correct this mismatch electrically. It achieves this by adding variable inductances and capacitances between the aerial and the receiver. A very common design for an ATU employs a PI network. This has a tapped coil connected between the aerial and the receiver, with variable capacitors connected from each end of the coil to earth. The three components, the coil and the two capacitors, are adjusted for maximum signal strength.

Apart from adding a great number of S units by matching the aerial to the receiver, the addition of another tuned, for that is all that an ATU is, may help 2nd channel rejection in superhets, and when used with a transmitter, will discriminate against harmonics.*



A typical PI network ATU. The numbers above the coil refer to the numbers of turns between each tap, and are typical. The coil should be constructed from fairly thick wire e.g. 20 or 22 swg, wound round a 1 inch diameter tube. The values of the variable capacitors can be between 360 pF and 150 pF. 360 pF each for general working from approximately 3.5 MHz to 30 MHz, depending on the aerial, and 150 pF for restricted working near the top of the shortwave band.

Banana plugs or crocodile clips can be used as alternatives to a switch.

QSL information: I have received QSLs this month from: BBC Radio Stoke (200m) 9d, BBC Radio Medway (96.7MHz) 34d, Metro R. Newcastle (261m) 6d, Radio Telfis Eirrean (566 KHz) 49d. Has anyone ever had a QSL from R. Grenada or R. Lebanon? (ed.) or R. Lumumbashi, Zaire? (L.E.F. TDC-001-EU). Our secretary, Mr. Balhatchet has had QSLs this month from VOA (no fr.) 59d, BBC R. Medway (96.7MHz) 32d, Radio Telfis Eirrean (566 KHz) 52d, i Radio Nac. Brasilia (15245 KHz) 74d.

Our new member Mr. Lennart Frostelid, Frosterud, S-690 10, Atorp, Sweden (TDC-001-EU) writes: "Why not have a front page? showing a QSL or two for your paper, it is going "dry" as we say in Sweden. I would like to have a list of members in your paper". Well thanks for the suggestions Lennart, from next month we shall be having a front page - showing QSL's pennants, letters and anything of interest. Our new Deputy Editor Mr. Lee will be preparing this page and he would welcome any interesting photocopies. Referring to your other point, it would be unfair with only about 15 members at present to make a list of the top 5 or so QSL collectors, when we have over 20 members we shall be doing this though. Lennart also sends the following tips:-

USSR-Radio Riga broadcasts in Swedish at 20.20 GMT on 5135 KHz (50.55m) and 522 metres, the broadcast is repeated at 21.30 on 50.55, 222 and 252m. They are answering 100% and send pennants and postcards to those who ask. Radio Tallin broadcast in Swedish at 21.05 on 290 metres MW, the verie. text is in English they send a pennant after 10 reports. The station broadcasts in Swedish, Russian and Estonian.

PORTUGAL-S.E.I.T. broadcast in Swedish and Dutch at 21.30 on 9670 KHz 31.02 metres on week-days. They are easy to report on and sand out two very beautiful QSL cards. They reply within one month.

PHILIPPINES-FEBC broadcast a religious px in English at 16.30 on 15440 KHz 19.43 metres.

W-GERMANY-DLF broadcast in Swedish at 20.30 on 1268 KHz 236.5m. You can get a pennant after 5 reports, they also send out decals, posters, and a book of antenna tips.

Mr.D.O.French, 136 Tollington Park, Stroud Green, London N4 3AD, GB (TDC-007-GB) writes that he started DX-ing in 1938 on a Pye QUZ8 with an aerial slung between two chimneys and an AW2 Eddystone. The location was in Norwich where Mr.French used to have late night sessions on Saturdays and later with a Double Decca on Sundays. He sent in a photocopy of his log from 1938 to 1941, below I'm printing some of the very interesting loggings.

M.F.L.	COUNTRY	STATION	CALL	W.L.	HOUR	QSA, R	PX.	TIME	DATE
3,500	USA	Wayne	W2XE	19.65	10	5,6/7	swing, tx	21.30	12-9-38
3,730	USA	Pittsburgh	W8XK	19.72	18	5,6/7	mx foreign	22.30	12-9-38
3,700	USA	Bound Br.	W3XAL	16.87	25	5,6/7	Carmen, nx	18.00	13-9-38
5,200	Panama	Panama C.	HP5A	25.64	.3	3,3	nx	23.30	11-3-39
6,400	Philippines	Manila	KZRM	31.35	1	4,3/4	call, mx	15.00	19-3-39
10,000	Australia	Melbourne	VLR3	25.25	2	5,6/7	Gym.2 calls	21.05	21-3-39
5,000	China	Chungking	XGOY	25.21	35	5,8	Chinese mx	21.30	21-3-39
5,700	Japan	Tokio	JLT2	31.1	50	5,8	call	19.30	25-3-39
7,500	Chile	Vladavia	CD1190	25.21	2	5,5	bugle, mx	23.00	25-3-39
4,500	Br.Guiana,	Georgetn.	VP3BG	49.94	.2	5,8/9	swing, wx	23.30	22-4-39
6,600	Uruguay	Continental	CKA2	31.35	5	5,9	tango, call	23.15	13-5-39
7,000	Java	Bandoeny	PMN	29.24	1 1/2	5,6/7	closey eyes	17.30	14-5-39
6,100	Paraguay	Villamio	ZP14	25.6	3	5,9	tango call	22.55	27-5-39
6,200	Peru	Nacional	OAX4Z	49.24	15	5,5/6	calls	00.10	17-6-39
4,450	USA	Miami	W4XB	49.67	5	5,6/7	call nx	04.10	18-8-39
5,300	Guatemala	City	TGWA	19.78	10	5,7	calls etc	22.15	13-8-39
7,040	Chile	Santiago	CB1170	25.64	-	5,8	Bugule	23.20	26-8-39
5,940	Fr.Indo	China							
		R.Saigon	FZR	25.47	12	5,4	Chinese	14.35	10-12-39
10,000	Australia	Sydney	VL2	31.2	3	3,3/4	mx call	08.10	19-2-40
5,600	Brazil	Rio de Jan.	PRF5	31.56	-	0,2	local mx	22.20	5-8-40
3,750	Belgian	Congo							
		Leopoldsville	OPM	29.59	-	4,8	mx talk	20.30	16-3-41
6,700	Argentine	Buenos.	LRX	31.06	10	1/2, 5	IS	23.30	13-4-41
?	Fr.Equ.	Africa							
		Brasseville	F2I	25.06	-	4,9	?	20.50	17-4-41

Thanks Mr. French for a very fine contribution! Just a reminder that the stations were logged over 30 years ago so very few are still on the air.

Family Tree

WIXAL - WRULS - WNYW - WYFR
 Boston - Boston - Situate - Situate

NOVEMBER PROPAGATION REPORT by the editor.

Reception is continuing to decrease after dark on the higher frequencies. There was a good North American opening on 8.10.74. and on and around that date propagation was rather good. There was also some nice LA DX on the 12th in the 25 mb and at the moment we may be heading for a tropospheric, today (24.10) and there is some good African DX in the tropical bands. Belgian and Dutch stations are very prominent on VHF at the moment, the best days to listen are those cold sunny days when the pressure is high. The best band this month has been 31 metres, but there has also been some reasonable DX on 25 m.

"JAMMING ON THE SHORTWAVES" - by the editor.

This article is really a follow-up to the article by David Balhatchet about propaganda on the shortwaves in the September issue of "Communication".

Try tuning around the 16 metre band in the evenings. Every other station is a jammer. A jammer sounds just like a loud buzzing noise and is very often mistaken for an atmospheric. It's easy to tell the difference really; jammers identify every few minutes by morse.

Jamming is just over-modulated music fed into a transmitter. Most jamming is carried out by governments in certain countries who do not want their people to hear broadcasts from abroad - or to hear the other side of the story. Jamming is a great nuisance to DXers, particularly on the higher frequencies (those between 13 and 49 metres). In such large countries like the USSR and its allies, high power jammers operate to cover the whole country. However, these stations often affect reception on a world wide scale - SW transmissions do not stop at state borders.

The communists are not the only offenders; there are a few countries ruled by military juntas or dictatorships where communication from the outside world has not been encouraged.

The only way that jamming can be stopped is by international agreement. I remember one occasion last year just before the opening of the European security council meeting in Helsinki when it was suddenly announced that the USSR and its satellite states had stopped jamming the BBC, VOA and DW - when it was over they promptly started again.

Someone once asked the question on "Swiss shortwave merry - go-round" (SBC), "Can I get a QSL from a jammer?". The answer given was that a letter to the PTT in Moscow might do the trick - well, you never know, but I'll leave that question open - I don't know either. Like the propaganda stations, their allies in the dirty business of lying and cheating, jammers ought to be thought of as an unfunny pantomime and, if identified, should be treated with caution.

TDC PUBLICATIONS

Reception report forms (in English). Price - GB, 20 forms for 2 IRCs.
Overseas, 3 IRCs airmail.

TDC Time Check list - a list of all "Radio Countries" and their time deviations from GMT.

Price - GB, Stamped addressed env.
Overseas, 2 IRCs airmail.

DX Codes, a comprehensive DXtra listing the three main DX codes (SINPO, RST and Q) explaining them and giving examples.

Price - GB, Stamped addressed env.
Overseas, 2 IRCs airmail.

TDC TAPE!!! "Jingles of the Pirates" write to the club for further details.

CQ...CQ...CQ...CQ...

R.F. PRESELECTOR WANTED. Any make (preferably valve) in working order for use with a rather image ridden Codar CR 70A set. I will pay up to around £7, depending on the condition. If you have one please contact me (editor) at 13 Tennyson Avenue, Twickenham, TW1 4QX.

AERIAL MAST WANTED. About 25ft - preferably metal (in sections) by our

The Twickenham DX Club
37a, Pope's Grove,
Twickenham, England.

EDITORIAL

Phew! What a bumper edition! It's doubled in size since September! Thanks to all the contributors, please keep the contributions coming in. Any tips, questions, DX news items, information etc. are most welcome. Thanks also to Radio Australia, Radio Nederland, Radio Budapest and ORF for advertising us over their DX shows. I'm glad to say that the letters have been pouring in.

Our last printers have suddenly decided that they are over-worked and will no longer print anything for the TDC. We therefore appeal to you to help us in this very serious matter. If you know of anyone who could help us in this respect, or if you yourself could help us, please write immediately. Meanwhile, we apologise for any delays that may be caused.

We welcome the following new members who have joined us this month. WELCOME!

- TDC-007-GB Mr.David O.French, 136, Tollington Park, Stroud Green, London N4 3AD.
- TDC-008-GB Mr.Andrew Sharp, 80, Castlenau, Barnes, London, SW 13 9EX.
- TDC-001-EU Mr.Lennart Frostelid, Frosterud, S-690 10 Atorp, Sweden.
- TDC-001-AS Mr.Koichi Yasuda, 9857, Beppu Makurazaki, Kagoshima 894, Japan.
- TDC-002-AS Mr.Fumio Nishimura, 1606-1 Hiromi, Otsuki-cho, Kochi-Ken, Japan.
- TDC-003-AS Mr.Kariya Nizatamura, 18-7 6 Chiwari, KaheiGun, Iwate-Ken, Japan.

Don't forget that your contributions should reach HQ by 25th of each month for publishing in the following bulletin.
Best 73's

David Kenny (ed) *David Kenny*

THE TWICKENHAM DX CLUB BOARD:
 EDITOR David M. Kenny
 DEPUTY EDITOR Mark B.R. Lee
 SECRETARY David P.W. Balhatchet
 TREASURER Nicholas D. Van Stigt

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION PER YEAR

GREAT BRITAIN - £0.75p (uncrossed postal order made payable to treasurer)
 EUROPE - 12 IRC's first class
 OTHER COUNTRIES - 15 IRC's airmail, or 12 IRC's surface mail
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Late Item. Our German member Mr. T.Huckemann, Marzissenweg 8, D-6300 GIESSEN, FRC sends the following items:

Albania-QSL received in 4 months. Austria-ORF celebrated its 50th anniversary on October 1st. They have 9 new QSL cards, all letters sent by them will have a special stamp until December (October in Europe). Canada-RCI will be issuing a special HAP card for their DX programme on 2nd November. Germany-Deutsche Welles German broadcasts are as follows. All on 6075 and 9545 KHz. To Europe 07.00 GMT, To Australia 06.00 GMT, to Japan 10.00 GMT, to Asia 14.00 GMT, to Africa 18.00 GMT and to North America at 22.00 GMT. South Africa-Radio RSA broadcast in German from 18.00 to 18.50 on 11900 and 15155 KHz (both good reception). Japan-NHK broadcast in German (followed by English) from 07.00-07.30 on 17825 and 15430 KHz and from 18.00-18.30 on 7195 and 9605. The General Service is on 9585 to Europe.

Mr. Huckemann has made a survey of the countries with transmissions outside the official bands. China has 206, the USSR 83, N.Vietnam 26, N.Korea 25 and Albania 19. He also asks if anyone could translate Russian or Portuguese for him, in exchange he could translate letters into German from English.

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