



Radio Society of Great Britain



## City of Bristol RSGB Group - G6YB

At the Bristol Lawn Tennis & Squash Club, Redland Green, Redland, Bristol BS6 7HF

### **Annual General Meeting 2000hrs Mon Jan 27th**

Come along and have your say about the running of the group - would you like to see any changes in the committee, the venue, the talks ?

It will also be time to renew your membership: Ron Ford G4GTD will be along to collect any payments. We aim to start the meeting at 2000hrs.

The Agenda will consist of

Minutes of the last AGM

Matters arising

Chairman / Secretary/ Treasurer Reports

Election of Officers

AOB

### **Bring and Buy Sale 1900hrs**

To relieve the boredom of the AGM we are having a Bring and Buy sale on the same evening.

This will start BEFORE the AGM so bring along your items for sale at 1900hrs

Selling or more bargaining can continue after the business part of the meeting.

## How It All Began – Cyril Chapman - G2HDR

*Cyril is one of our more “senior members” recently celebrating his 90th Birthday*



I became interested in ‘short wave’ radio about 1938-39, and with a school friend played about with various broadcast sets. This became more serious in 1939 when I applied for an Artificial Aerial licence. Because I was under 21 this was granted to my father with me as ‘his agent’. I built an 0-v-1 receiver, battery operated of course and a transmitter based around a Colpitts oscillator. These experiments ended in September 1939 with the outbreak of war.

No further involvement with amateur radio until the late 1940s to early 1950s when I had an Eddystone 640 receiver. Marriage, family and work took up my time for the next few years. Although I held the AA licence, to get a full licence I had to take the RAE and a 12wpm Morse test. These I managed in 1955 and made my first QSO on 1st October -1.8 MHz of course.

1957 saw me move to 145MHz with an HB9CV, Yagi and later a Skeleton Slot from J-beam. A rotator was built using bicycle sprockets and chain, powered by a government surplus reversible motor. The transmitter used a QVO320a P.A. and a VHF converter for receiving. All home brewed.

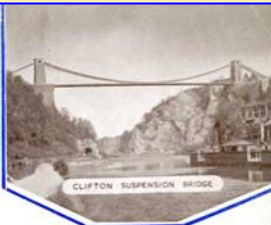

From 1957 to 1977 I used another home built Tx with a 6146 PA, unusual in that the VFO tuning circuit was remote from the Tx, and was on the desk next to the Rx. (See picture on the next page!) This reduced drift from heat induced from the P.A.valves. It ran about 50W to a 135’Zepp. Using an HRO and later an AR88 I managed DXCC and also worked all British Counties on 160m - not easy as Rutland and several of the Scottish counties had no amateur population!

Around this time I did slow Morse transmissions on Top Band for a few years. I also had **three** official station inspections from the GPO - I don’t think they were connected!

I became Chairman of the Bristol RSGB Group for a couple of years in the mid 1960s

In 1977 I moved to my present address where I only have room for a half size G5RV; I also use a ground-mounted multiband vertical which works well when conditions are favouring low angle radiation.

I’ve had many rigs over the years, FT101D,TS830,TS940 and currently an FT2000, Kenwood TS590 and for VHF an Icom E208

<b>G2HDR</b> "Yewit", Stoke Hill, Stoke Bishop, Bristol 9.	
To <u>C3IZM</u> confirming our 1.8 Mhz QSO on 23 Oct 55	
at <u>19:50</u> G.M.T. Ur. sigs	
were RST <u>5-2-9</u> fone: <u>EA</u>	
Rx <u>Wya 560</u> Tx <u>VFO/PA</u> Input <u>Swatts</u>	
Ant <u>1/2 w. Zepp</u>	
PSE/TNX QSL Direct/via RSGB. <u>Cybil</u> 73 <b>C. N. CHAPMAN</b>	

G2HDR Cont'd ....

I am on the air most days and in most HF contests, which I enjoy. No chance of making a meaningful score of course, but trying to better my performance of the previous year. My favourite mode is CW. SSB only gets used when looking for special event stations. I do not go in for rag-chewing on 40m!

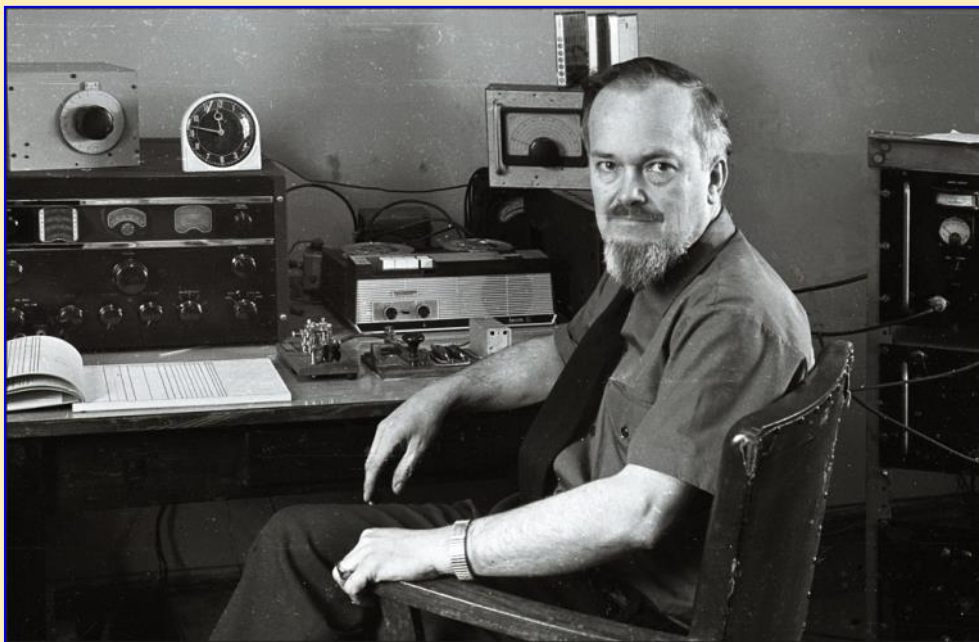
I started reading the GB2RS news about 1994, had a break and started again last year.

FM gets used for the news and the occasional QSO, sometimes through a 2m repeater.

My DXCC score stands at about 175 and my IOTA at about 160. I do not work hard at either but pick up new ones when I can – often by accident!

So that is the story of my amateur radio life – or as much of it as I can remember!

***Many thanks Cyril for all the head scratching that went into this !***



If anyone else would like to send in a short “life history” or “how I started in radio” please contact me - don't be shy - we all find them fascinating! [robin@g3tkf.co.uk](mailto:robin@g3tkf.co.uk)

# Chippenham & DARC G3VRE

**Sunday 19th January 2014**

## **'Mini' Indoor Radio Rally**

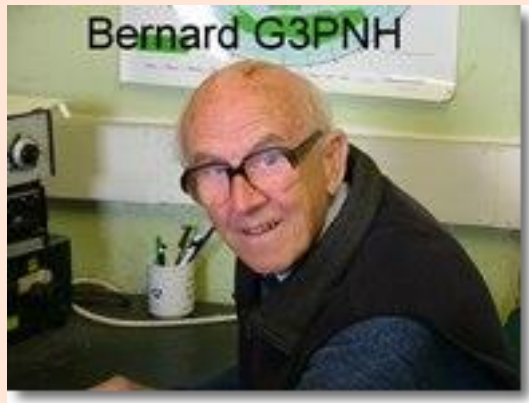
Neston Village Hall, Neston , Corsham, Wilts SN13 9SN

Sellers: doors open at 0900hrs and Buyers at 1000hrs

£5 per table\* (if pre-booked) £6 on the day.

Refreshments (provided by Neston Drama Group)

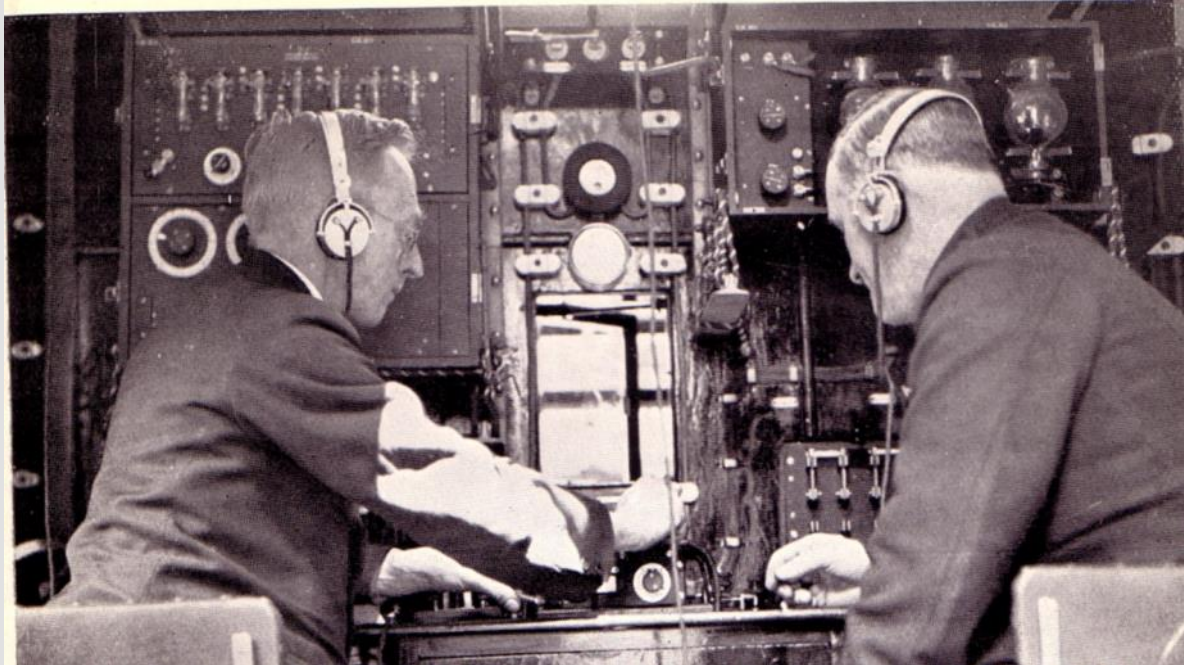
For further details check their website <http://www.g3vre.org.uk/aboutus.asp>



Staying in the Chippenham district : members will be saddened to hear that Bernard G3PNH passed away on Jan 1st 2014. A well known voice in the area on VHF and the LF bands. A keen CW operator, technically knowledgeable, and always prepared to encourage those new to the hobby.

## Caption Competition

Can you think of a suitable amusing caption for this picture?



Send me your captions and pictures (Thanks to Colin G3YHV for this one!)

**The winning caption gets a free chance in the raffle !**

# **NEWSFLASH!**

**Have you validated your licence recently !??**

Apparently there are 40,000 licences that will expire by April this year (I was one of them !) Go online and check !

<http://licensing.ofcom.org.uk/radiocommunication-licences/amateur-radio/>

## **Coming soon to the Bristol Group**

February: Ian Greenshields G4FSU “ 5Mhz ”

March: Prof. Cathryn Mitchell “ Solar Flares and their effect on GPS systems”

May/June: Trip to the Clifton Rocks Railway if sufficient interest !

## **At the local clubs :**

Full details and more on the websites below

**Bath and District ARC** <http://badarc.webs.com/>

**Chepstow and District ARC** <http://www.gw4lwz.org.uk/>

**Chippenham & DARC** <http://www.g3vre.org.uk/archive.asp>

**MidSARC** [www.midsarc.org.uk/](http://www.midsarc.org.uk/)

**North Bristol ARC** <http://www.nbarc.org.uk/>

**Shirehampton** <http://www.shirehampton-arc.org.uk>

**South Bristol ARC** <http://www.sbarc.co.uk/calendar/>

**Thornbury and South Gloucs ARC** <http://www.tsgarc.ham-radio-op.net>

**Trowbridge and District ARC** <http://www.radioclubs.net/trowbridgedarc/events.php>

If you want to buy or sell something, let me know !

I need articles for “How I started in radio” - even if nobody else does, I will find it interesting!

**[Robin G3TKF](#)**

**RSGB Bristol Group Sec.**

**01225 420442**

**<http://www.g6yb.org>**