

STARLITE

THE JOURNAL FOR THE STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT A.R.S.



**G6OI
G6SRS**



ISSUE: DECEMBER 2020



G4CVH

**STOURBRIDGE & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
INCORPORATING
OLD SWINFORD HOSPITAL SCHOOL RADIO CLUB**

MEETINGS HELD AT

**OLDSWINFORD HOSPITAL SCHOOL
HEATH LANE
STOURBRIDGE
[8:00 TO 10:00 PM]**

VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME

**THE SOCIETY HOLDS ITS MEETINGS
EVERY MONDAY (EXCLUDING BANK HOLIDAYS)**

MERRY CHRISTMAS

RSGB AFFILIATED SOCIETY

STARLITE

Telephone Enquiries to:-

Hon. Secretary
John Clarke M1EJG
[01562] 700513

Or by Email to:-

honsec@g6oi.org.uk
johnclarke.m1ejg@btinternet.com

All correspondence/enquiries should
be addressed to the Hon Secretary at:-

StARS
c/o The Mill House
21 Mill Lane
Blakedown
Kidderminster
DY10 3ND

StARS Website URLs:-

www.g6oi.org.uk
<http://g6oi.ross-lewis.co.uk>

StARS Facebook Page:-

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/stourbridge.ars/>

Forthcoming Meetings

December 7 th	Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm
December 14 th	Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm
December 21 st	Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm
December 28 th	Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm
January 4 th 2021	Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm
January 11 th 2021	Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm
January 18 th 2021	Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm
January 25 th 2021	Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm
February 1 st 2021	Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm
February 8 th 2021	Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm
February 15 th 2021	Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm
February 22 nd 2021	Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm
March 1 st 2021	Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm
March 8 th 2021	Club Net: 145.325MHz FM & Zoom Video. 8pm

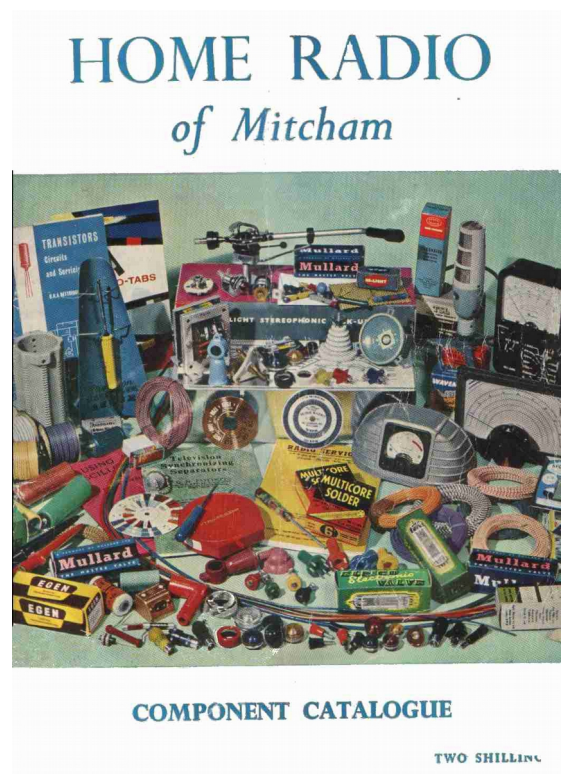
Editor's Comment

Recently, I've been optimistically looking forward to going out /P in 2021. I was considering making some form of vertical aerial, using ribbon line, for the 2m band, but I found a ready-made one on eBay – a roll-up J Pole made from 450 ohm slotted ribbon. So I bought one! It's a nicely made aerial, with a choke balun and terminated with a SO-239 socket. I have yet to test it, but for the cost of around £18, I hope it will be a useful addition to my collection.

Now, how to get it in the air? I had a look online for non-inductive sky hooks, but to no avail. Then I remembered people talking about Decathlon fishing poles – a bit too costly, so where now? I found a 7 metre (23 foot) fibreglass telescopic pole at Sotabeams for £19, so that's what I bought. It should be easy enough to erect without help. (The 10 metre pole was £30 – a bit rich for me!) Again, it's to be trialled, but I think it will be OK.

As usual, I have no Club news to report, but I understand that the Monday night Club Net is going strong and is well subscribed by a number of members and a regular visitor. Hopefully it will remain popular until the pestilence is eradicated or, at least, under control, when we can resume normal operations.

I saw this somewhere on the interwebnet and my question is “Did any of you use this company in the *olden times*??”



Will Santa be bringing you anything nice for Christmas?

If so, perhaps you could let others know what goodies you received on the day.



These first two items came from **Jim G4WAO/VK2**. I'm only providing you with the links, as I cannot embed video in these pages! I hope you find the content interesting.

Diving into D-STAR – 1

<https://amateurradionotes.com/d-star.htm>



For this second item, Jim says *"The attached link might just get some interest from those who have kids in their family and could have some AR interest !!"*

... via the ISS Fan Club... may be useful if you want to nudge someone you know towards the hobby:

<https://issfanclub.eu/2020/10/28/here-is-a-fun-free-book-for-kids-and-adults-that-discusses-how-much-excitement-amateur-radio-can-be-for-the-entire-family/>

This third item came from **John G8UAE**, who says *"This link might be interesting to put in Starlite. It is a free source of old radio books to download."*

https://www.qsl.net/va3iul/Files/Old_Radio_Frequency_Books.htm

And here is a ham radio magazine archive which I go to from time to time:

<https://worldradiohistory.com/index.htm>

If you have an interest in clandestine or "spy" radio sets, I suggest you visit the following web site – Crypto Museum, which contains myriad examples of these radios from many countries. I found it very interesting.

[Www.cryptomuseum.com](http://www.cryptomuseum.com)

Green Goo

This came from RSGB Tech via **John G8UAE**:

Now EICR's are compulsorily for Private Rentals I'm seeing more and more Jobs with Green Goo around the switches and Sockets.

If you have any with Green Staining, Please get the wiring tested.

<https://www.whyprysmian.co.uk/news-green-goo.html>

or

<https://www.voltimum.co.uk/articles/green-goo>

It's the Plasticiser in the Cable breaking down, eventually the insulation resistance on the cable will get so poor, that the installation requires rewiring.

The Goo is not particularly nice to get on your hands, and depending on the exact mix in the cables may be carcinogenic.

Here is another from Jim, who says *"This ones a bit different, I have looked and listened and have to say it made the news a little more interesting."*

If you like your Amateur Radio news with pictures...

Want a different way to listen to the weekly national news ? Then you can watch it on YouTube.

Bevan, VK5BD, has been compiling a video version of the news by adding appropriate photos to the news items and hence making a video version. The audio is the same which you hear over the radio. He has been doing this for the ATV network and decided to put it up on YouTube for all to see. Check it out Bevan's channel on the following link to watch the video version of the news.....



https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNqFJ_J9L4HLiRqVHCEHJjg

Q Code Trivia Quiz

What are the long forms of the following Q codes

QRZ?

1. Are you busy?
2. Are you ready?
3. Who is calling me?
4. Where is my microphone?

QRM?

1. Shall I increase transmitter power?
2. Shall I stop sending?
3. Is my transmission being interfered with?
4. Are you troubled by your better half?

QRT?

1. How many radio-telephone calls have you booked?
2. Should I go to sleep?
3. Shall I stop sending?
4. Are you ready for automatic operation?

QRV?

1. Does this dress make me look fat?
2. Are you ready?
3. Shall I send faster?
4. Shall I send more slowly?

QSY?

1. Should I change transmission to another frequency? If so, which one?
2. Should we talk about your health on 80 metres?
3. How far, approximately, are you from my station?
4. Can you acknowledge receipt?

QRU?

1. Shall I stop sending?
2. Are you being interfered with?
3. You are boring. Can I change frequency?
4. Have you anything for me?

QRH?

1. Does my frequency vary?
2. Shall I inform that you are calling him on kHz (or MHz)?
3. How is the tone of my transmission?
4. Can I borrow your underwear?

QSL?

1. Shall I send a series of Vs in this frequency
2. Shall I repeat the call on the calling frequency?
3. Can you acknowledge receipt?
4. Do you often frequent QRZ forums?

QRS?

1. How ugly is your sister?
2. What working frequency will you use?
3. Have you anything for me?
4. Shall I send slower?

QRL?

1. Are you being interfered with?
2. Is your name Stan?
3. Are you busy?
4. How is the tone of my transmission?

Now it is your turn to give an answer.

QLF? *What is the meaning of this code?*

The answers will come next month.

Sorry.
Didn't have anything to fill this space!

Louis Daguerre (1787–1851) and the Invention of Photography

On January 7, 1839, members of the French Académie des Sciences were shown products of an invention that would forever change the nature of visual representation: photography. The astonishingly precise pictures they saw were the work of Louis-Jacques-Mandé Daguerre (1787–1851), a Romantic painter and printmaker most famous until then as the proprietor of the Diorama, a popular Parisian spectacle featuring theatrical painting and lighting effects. Each daguerreotype (as Daguerre dubbed his invention) was a one-of-a-kind image on a highly polished, silver-plated sheet of copper.

Daguerre's invention did not spring to life fully grown, although in 1839 it may have seemed that way. In fact, Daguerre had been searching since the mid-1820s for a means to capture the fleeting images he saw in his camera obscura, a draftsman's aid consisting of a wood box with a lens at one end that threw an image onto a frosted sheet of glass at the other. In 1829, he had formed a partnership with Nicéphore Niépce, who had been working on the same problem—how to make a permanent image using light and chemistry—and who had achieved primitive but real results as early as 1826. By the time Niépce died in 1833, the partners had yet to come up with a practical, reliable process.

Not until 1838 had Daguerre's continued experiments progressed to the point where he felt comfortable showing examples of the new medium to selected artists and scientists in the hope of lining up investors. François Arago, a noted astronomer and member of the French legislature, was among the new art's most enthusiastic admirers. He became Daguerre's champion in both the Académie des Sciences and the Chambre des Députés, securing the inventor a lifetime pension in exchange for the rights to his process. Only on August 19, 1839, was the revolutionary process explained, step by step, before a joint session of the Académie des Sciences and the Académie des Beaux-Arts, with an eager crowd of spectators spilling over into the courtyard outside.

The process revealed on that day seemed magical. Each daguerreotype is a remarkably detailed, one-of-a-kind photographic image on a highly polished, silver-plated sheet of copper, sensitized with iodine vapors, exposed in a large box camera, developed in mercury fumes, and stabilized (or fixed) with salt water or "hypo" (sodium thiosulfate). Although Daguerre was required to reveal, demonstrate, and publish detailed instructions for the process, he wisely retained the patent on the equipment necessary to practice the new art.

From the moment of its birth, photography had a dual character—as a medium of artistic expression and as a powerful scientific tool—and Daguerre promoted his invention on both fronts. Several of his earliest plates were still-life compositions of plaster casts after antique sculpture—an ideal subject since the white casts reflected light well, were immobile during long exposures, and lent, by association, the aura of "art" to pictures made by mechanical means. But he also photographed an arrangement of shells and fossils with the same deliberation, and used the medium for other scientific purposes as well. The journalist Hippolyte Gaucheraud, in a scoop that appeared the day before daguerreotypes were first shown to the Académie des Sciences, wrote of having been shown the image of a dead spider photographed through a solar microscope: "You could

study its anatomy with or without a magnifying glass, as in nature; [there is] not a filament, not a duct, as tenuous as might be, that you cannot follow and examine.” Even Arago, director of the Observatoire de Paris, was reportedly surprised by a daguerreian image of the moon.

Neither Daguerre’s microscopic, nor his telescopic, daguerreotypes survive, for on March 8, 1839, the Diorama—and with it Daguerre’s laboratory—burned to the ground, destroying the inventor’s written records and the bulk of his early experimental works. In fact, fewer than twenty-five securely attributed photographs by Daguerre survive—a mere handful of still lifes, Parisian views, and portraits from the dawn of photography.

Malcolm Daniel

Department of Photographs, The Metropolitan Museum of Art

October 2004

Certainly hope we don't get too much of this during the coming Winter!

Photo by G4XOM



©ROBERT EGAN
PHOTOGRAPHY

YOUR COMMITTEE



PRESIDENT

Alan Stanley

M7ALS

VICE PRESIDENT

Nick Moss

G6DQN

SECRETARY

John Clarke

M1EJG

TREASURER

John Scott

G8UAE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Wayne Mocroft

M5LLT

Geoff Cooper

G0KVK

Mark Cadman

M0TCG

Keith Dixon

M0HPY

Ross Lewis

2E0RLX

STARLITE EDITOR

Bob Egan

G4XOM

Email:

g4xom@g6oi.org.uk