



# Carrier Wave

Carrier Wave  
Volume 3 Issue 2

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## Club News

### 60 Years Celebration

This year the Society celebrates its 60th year and to mark the occasion, members attended an anniversary meal at the Copthorne Hotel in Aberdeen.

We don't know why but all three raffle prizes were won at only one of the two tables. The meal was excellent and enjoyed by all. Many of the members present expressed a keen interest in continuing this event in future years.

Many thanks to Ian Munro GM4GVK for organising this celebration event

### Outdoor Events

With spring upon us, a number of external events have been organised. The first is the Bucket Mill for International Windmills & Waterwheels weekend on the 12th & 13th of May. Antenna checks will be carried out in the preceding weeks

### Intermediate Student Pass.

“Saturday Morning” student David Rodger, MM3RRD from Banchory is soon to get his 2M0 call after successfully passing his intermediate exam on 31st March 2007.

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#### Coming up soon:-

- **Antenna Checks**

## SATURDAY MORNINGS

Instructors: GM4BKV + GM8CBQ

Venue: Scout Hut, Oakhill Crescent Lane, Aberdeen

Time: 10-12am

The club has been a training centre since I let Frank Dinger talk me into being an instructor for NOVICE LICENCE (about 15/16 years ago). Since then, we've done about 80 novices and over 30 Foundation, Intermediate or Advance.

The students are varied, some need little or any help, and others a great deal. A very few needed a great deal of one-to-one tuition and to their credit, triumphed in the end.

The foundation licence "assessment" require hands on work and HF QSO's and VHF QSO's, including repeaters. The foundation candidates also adjust a dipole for resonance. This is done on a telescopic 2 m dipole and demonstrates the importance of trimming to the correct length using an SWR meter. The intermediate requires an "assessment" a little more complicated, i.e. a construction project, practical evidence of being able to measure voltage, current, and resistance, plus formulae for power. Furthermore, both of their licences require knowledge of regulations, interference and safety. Some of the questions seem rather simple but the total knowledge is comprehensive as a look at the syllabus will show. The advance licence exam needs no "assessment".



## Methods of teaching:

Pupils advance at their own pace and get help as needed. If there are several undertaking one course, they help one another. It is interesting to note that it is not necessary to have a licence to progress; in fact, all three licence exams may be taken in a weekend but they must all be taken in order. Norman GM8CBQ is the technical man and Stan GM4BKV the academic and clerical man, i.e. Norman sets up rigs and computer and gives the pupils a 'hands-on' experience; Stan does the paper work, e.g. joining forms, request for exam papers informing OFCOM (Advance only), as they may wish to see how we run exams.

We must also mention Robert, 2M1 HRS our exam Secretary and Chief Invigilator, and Don MMODFZ, the other invigilator who also give up their time on Saturday mornings. The exams are as well run as any educational establishment and results for F & I exams given at the time.

We do not do a lot of Advance but in time we will. We have three in the pipeline at the moment and the QRA disc for that particular exam is a very powerful tool as the answers are comprehensive and easily understood. The maths for the Advance is the hardest and the other two only require simple formulae. So far, no great difficulties have occurred and other club members help when asked.

Stan Sutherland GM4BKV



## **A bit of fun with Letters & Words**

**“Stewardesses” is the longest word typed with your left hand and “lollipop” with your right.**

**Maine is the only state whose name is just one syllable**

**No word in the English dictionary rhymes with month, orange or purple.**

**“Dreamt” is the only word that ends with “mt”**

**The sentence: “The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog” uses every letter of the alphabet.**

**The words “racecar”, “kayak” and “level” are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left. (palindromes)**

**There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order. “abstemious” and “facetious”.**

**TYPEWRITER is the longest word that can be made using only one row of the keyboard**

**There are only four words in the English language that end in “dous”: tremendous, horrendous, stupendous and hazardous.**



# Technical

## Digital Know-how

Digital communications seem to be expanding with more than 60 different modes now available. Free Programmes are available for amateur use. Interfaces range from top of the range RigBlaster to home brew isolation interfaces. All you need is to connect your existing transceiver to your PC, install the free software and your on air with digital modes. Here are just a few of the modes & programmes associated with digital transmissions:-

PSK, PSK31, BPSK, QPSK31, BPSK63, QPSK63, BPSK125, QPSK125  
RTTY, CW, SSTV, APRS, PACKET, AFSK, MFSK CPIX, MSCAN, CWGET,  
HAMSCOPE, WINPACK, UI-VIEW, WINDRM, RMD, HRD.

George Anderson GM0VGI

## SNIPPETS

Repeaters in the Grampian area have been undergoing some major changes over the last year. The Grampian Repeater Group currently run four repeaters with a fifth due to be put into service shortly.

A new site at Cairn Mon Earn has been approved by Ofcom and owners SSE. The existing 2m and 70cms equipment was shifted during March 2007 with 6m due soon. The existing 70cms repeater was also reinstated at the Fire Station building on Anderson drive.

The 2m repeater at Mormond Hill is now ready to be re-sited locally along with an antenna shift to the top of a new commercial tower.

George Anderson GM0VGI

**For Sale Ian Munro GM4GVK (01224 316787)**

- Pair of Magnum–K Speakers 25 Hz to 20 kHz, 3 speakers with 12” Bass unit gives excellent quality. Dimensions 15” x 24” x 11.5”
- Heathkit HW-8 QRP Rig. 80-10m approx 2W o/p. Includes mains PSU and Manual.

**£100.00**

- Goldring variable speed turntable, Shure 75 pick-up

**Wanted Articles for inclusion in future newsletters.**

- Please submit articles for inclusion in the June issue by Thursday 3rd of May

73 from GM3BSQ

**Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society**Club Calls **GM3BSQ** & **GS3BSQ**