



# QZZ

Vol 31, Issue 6a  
December 2010

## The Newsletter of the Radio Society of Harrow G3EFX

The Radio Society of Harrow meets at 8.00 p.m. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> weeks of every month.  
Please see inside for more details.

### RSH Committee 2010/11

- President:** Dave John G3WCB  
**Chairman:** Chris Friel, G4AUF  
**Treasurer:** Stuart Heathcock, M1SMH  
**Secretary:** Linda Casey, G7RJL  
**Members:** Jim Clarke M0UJC  
Keith Levett M3OJH  
Peter Marcham, G3YXZ  
Kelly Monib, M1KFM  
Tom Reilly G0NSY  
David Talaber, G0CAG

### Honorary Member

Arnold Mynett, G3HBW

### Exam Secretary

Ray Snow G0BSP

### Contact Details

Chris, G4AUF - Tel: 01895 621310  
Email: Chris@chrisfriel.info  
Linda, G7RJL - Tel: 020 8386 8586  
Email: lcasey@imperial.ac.uk

### Website:

<http://www.g3efx.org.uk>  
email: lcasey@imperial.ac.uk

Also see: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/g3efx/>

### Newsletter Editor

Linda Casey G7RJL

### Club Net

All are welcome to join the Club net on:

Mondays at 20.15 (local time):

call on 145.500 (V40)  
then QSY to 145.350 MHz (V28)  
or nearest clear frequency

### Subscriptions for 2011

(figures in brackets are the discount rates for paying electronically)

Full membership £20 (£16) per year  
Concessionary Rate £14 (£10) per year  
Junior membership £6 (£5) per year.  
(Junior membership is defined as age under 18 and in full-time education.)

## Club Programme

The Radio Society of Harrow meets from 8.00 – 10.00 p.m. in The Elsie Fischer Room, St Lawrence Centre, St. Lawrence Church, 2 Bridle Road, Eastcote, Pinner HA5 2SJ

Map: <http://tinyurl.com/26dzog>. The church has some parking spaces, and you can also park in the road outside. Enter on the left as you look at the car park. Please respect the one-way access system and do not block the entrance to the Vicarage!

### December 2010

Fri 17	St Lawrence's	8.00 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Christmas social</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Come and enjoy some Christmas cheer, food and drink. The club will provide the basics but you are welcome to bring along a contribution of something savoury, sweet or fruity, or appropriate diversions or pastimes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wouxun handsets</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">This seems to be a popular piece of equipment and I know at least 4 club members have recently bought one. Brian G3YKB and Tom GONSY have been programming theirs and will bring them along with the programming software, so if you have one and would like some advice, or would like to see how these handsets perform, come along on 17 December.</p>
--------	---------------	-----------	--

### January 2011

Jan Fri 14	St Lawrence's	8.00 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;">Jim M0UJC</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PSK-31 Operation</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">History; Format; Station block diagram; interactive demonstration; Questions and discussion.</p>
Fri 28			TBA

### February 2011

Feb Fri 11			<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Radio Direction Finding</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Brian Bristow (G4KBB) and Bill Pechey (G4CUE) will talk about DF on Top Band. DF is open to all (if you can build or borrow a receiver) and is a great way of getting out in the countryside, having fun and perhaps winning a trophy or two.</p>
Fri 25			<b>Life as a Radio Detective:</b> Peter G3YXZ

### March 2011

Mar Fri 11			<b>Software Defined Radio:</b> rian G3YKB
Fri 25			<b>AGM</b>

### April 2011

Apr Fri 01			TBA
Sat/Sun	09/10 April		Family Forties Experience, Bushey Hall
Fri 15			TBA
Fri 22			Easter Friday
Fri 29			Royal wedding holiday

### May 2011

May			Bank holiday - May Day at Manor?
May Fri 6			Mid Thames DF hunt
May Fri 13			TBA
Fri 27			TBA

### June 2011

Jun Fri 10			<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Data Decoding:</b> Stuart M1SMH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">You can work Australia and Japan with a few watts with WSPR and JT65-HF. We'll also be looking at the Reverse Beacon Network – an alternative way of getting signal reports from around the world.</p>
Fri 24			Working satellites (Old Redding)

## Construction Contest, 3rd December 2010

Although 3 December was a very cold night with remnants of snow and ice still evident, a number of members managed to make it to the meeting, including three with entries for the Construction contest. All three entries were on a different theme and all were of high quality. The entries were as follows:

Reg G4FFA, with an electronic Morse reader  
Brian G3YKB, with an LF RF bridge and  
Dave G3WCB with a 137 kHz crystal controlled transmitter

Each gave a brief talk about his entry and answered questions from the other members. After that, all present were free to examine the items more carefully and discuss further with the constructor. Everyone then voted in a secret ballot by marking their 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> choice. The result was as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize, Dave, G3WCB - £10 and the award for a year of the Cup  
2<sup>nd</sup> Prize, Reg, G4FFA - £5  
3<sup>rd</sup> Prize, Brian G3YKB - £3



All the entrants were congratulated on their efforts and we look forward to next year's contest.

**Chris G4AUF**

Congratulations to Simon Kapadia on gaining his intermediate licence. His new call sign is 2E0LHR.

### London Model Engineering Exhibition Friday 21 January 2011 to Sunday 23 January 2011

Great Hall, Alexandra Palace, Alexandra Palace Way, London, N22 7AY  
Friday and Saturday 10.00am - 5.30pm; Sunday 10.00am - 4.00pm  
(last admission one hour before closing each day)

The ticket office in the Palm Court opens at 9.00am each day to purchase tickets prior to the exhibition opening at 10.00am.

<http://www.meridienneexhibitions.co.uk/our-events-detail.php?id=0000000002>

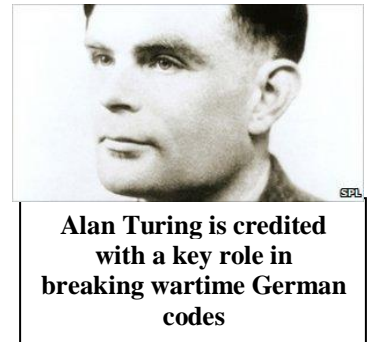


## Bid launched to buy Alan Turing's papers for the nation

<http://freelance.halfacree.co.uk/2010/11/saving-turings-papers/>

*Gareth Halfacree, a UK-based freelance writer, journalist, and erstwhile system administrator writes:*

"Alan Turing is a name synonymous with modern computing. A pioneer, war hero, and all-round great guy, he was snatched from us before his time due to prejudices surrounding his sexuality. Bletchley Park, the home of Station X where Turing worked to break German ciphers during the Second World War, does its part to keep him in our memories - but it needs our help.



Auction house Christie's is to auction off an impressive quantity of Turing's offprints, including his first published paper. It's thought to be the largest collection in the world, put together by Turing's friend Professor Maxwell Newman to whom Turing presented the offprints. They belong in a dedicated museum, but Bletchley Park can't afford the £300,000-£500,000 guide price. Turing, who has been called the "father of the computer", published only 18 papers in his short career, and the collection also contains his pioneering work on artificial intelligence and the foundations of the digital computer.

I'm asking for volunteers to dig deep and see to it that these papers not only stay in this country, but stay where the public can see them and benefit from them. Let's save them from being locked away in the vaults of a private collector. It's a big ask, looking for half a million pounds, I know - but if you work for a high-tech company, use a 'universal computer,' or are in any way connected with modern computing, you owe Turing a debt of gratitude - and this could be a way to help repay that debt. Please, consider donating. Every little helps, as a certain supermarket chain would say.

If you'd like to donate, please do so as soon as possible - we haven't got long if we want to save this historic treasure for future generations to enjoy! In the - hopefully unlikely - event that we don't reach our goal, fear not: the money raised will be still be going to Bletchley Park Trust, to support the charity's great work.

The papers they failed to reach the reserve price at the auction in November and I'm currently awaiting a message from Christie's to find out what happens to them now. They will either enter an 'after sale' at another time, in which case we have a chance to raise more funds and secure a bid, or they'll be sent back to the seller, in which case there's a chance for Bletchley Park to make a private offer.

In either case, more donations are required!

<http://freelance.halfacree.co.uk/2010/11/saving-turings-papers/>

Please keep on giving, and if you have any suggestions as to how to get Microsoft, Apple, Yahoo!, Facebook, and other high-tech firms to match or better the incredibly generous donation of \$100,000 made directly to Bletchley Park by Google in support of this campaign please let me know!



Turing's Bombe machine is viewed by many as the progenitor of the modern computer

## The Spies Who Lost the Battle of Britain New Documentary

I'm sure your members would be interested in a new documentary I have just completed. It tells the story of the frantic race to develop British radar and how the Germans nearly discovered its secrets in a daring radio spy mission carried out by the Graf Zeppelin airship. I have been trying to get broadcast interest in the story for nearly 10 years and in the end had to produce the programme entirely with my own resources (luckily I work in TV). I managed to get interviews with many of the surviving pioneers of radar before their demise. At present the DVD is only for sale on my website. Please visit [www.boffinstv.co.uk](http://www.boffinstv.co.uk) to see clips and learn more.

If you want any further information you can contact me at [brian@boffinstv.co.uk](mailto:brian@boffinstv.co.uk)

Many thanks

Brian Marshall  
BoffinsTV

On the brink of the Second World War, the huge *Graf Zeppelin* airship crossed the North Sea on a daring spy mission. What happened in the next 24 hours was to decide the future Battle of Britain.

Fighter Command assumed that all the secrets of *Chain Home* - the RAF's vital radar network - were now being analysed by the top wireless experts of the Luftwaffe. When war was declared just a few weeks later the radar stations braced themselves for a knock-out blow - but it never came.

With exclusive interviews, reconstructions and expert analysis, this new documentary finally tells the full story of the spy mission that changed the course of history.

To see more and view clips please visit [www.boffinstv.co.uk](http://www.boffinstv.co.uk)

---

### Please sign the on-line petition to save BBC World Service drama

**From Martin Brown**, Equity Assistant General Secretary Communications and Membership Support

Dear [Listener](#),

An on-line petition, launched by Archie Graham chair of Tiata Fadhozi Theatre, is calling on the BBC to withdraw plans to axe all drama output on the World Service from next year. The BBC has announced that it is to discontinue the 14 radio plays it broadcasts on the World Service annually blaming the "difficult financial climate".

Archie has written on the petition web site: "Listening to radio drama brings to life various cultural feels and aspects embedded in a playwright's literary work. The accents, the human interactions, background settings etc enhances the experience immensely. The BBC World Service Drama holds a too significant a strategic position in levelling of the fields in the literary world for it to be axed and it is my fervent hope that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office will reconsider their decision and that together with the BBC Trust and Department for Culture Media and Sport find a way of ensuring that World Service Drama continues providing such a wonderful and internationally acclaimed service."

Equity lobbied MPs early in November about World Service drama cuts and it has been raised by the union in talks with the BBC. The union is now asking all members to consider signing the petition to save drama on the BBC World Service.

You can find the petition at <http://www.savethebbcworldldrama.com>. Thank you in advance for supporting this important campaign.

