

A Very Active Amateur – Alan Carpenter G3RQT (SK)

During March 2025, the club was contacted by Jo Brown, the daughter of Alan Carpenter who was a member of the Vange Amateur Radio Society many years ago, Alan passed away in 2006. Jo had a number of Alan's old QSL cards, newspaper clippings and logbooks, and offered these to the club.

At the monthly club meeting in April, the members reflected on the activities of Alan, his early interest was as a SWL (Short Wave Listener), his SWL reference was "BRS23143" and he was an active SWL from Late 1969. He was later licensed as G3RQT, and he was extremely active on many bands using voice and data modes. We checked his logbooks and QSL cards, and noted all of the countries that he had contacted, and these included (In no particular order):

Moscow, USSR	Lagos, Nigeria	Skoga, Norway	Calcutta, India
Gaborone, Botswana	Sydney, Australia	Quebec, Canada	Rostberg, Sweden
Dragor, Denmark	Masirah Island	Kabul, Afghanistan	Salisbury, Rhodesia (S.Africa)
Gander, Newfoundland	Tortola, British Virgin Islands	Asuncion, Paraguay	Kingston, Jamaica
Kitwe, Zambia	Niteroi, Brazil	Dakar, Senegal	Saigon, Vietnam
Zomba, Malawi	Osaka, Japan	Massachusetts, USA	Wellington, New Zealand
Budapest, Hungary	Belgrade, Yugoslavia (Serbia)	Bangkok, Thailand	Isla de Aves, Venezuela
Hamilton, Bermuda	Kwajalein, Marshall Islands	Victoria, Australia	La Ceiba, Honduras

In February 1970, Alan relocated to Zambia, and was licenced as 9J2RQ

In March 1989 Alan became a member of the G-QRP Club (#4911)

Clearly over the years, Alan was extremely active on the airwaves, and was still active right up until April 2006

RSGB RNARS CHC F.H.C.

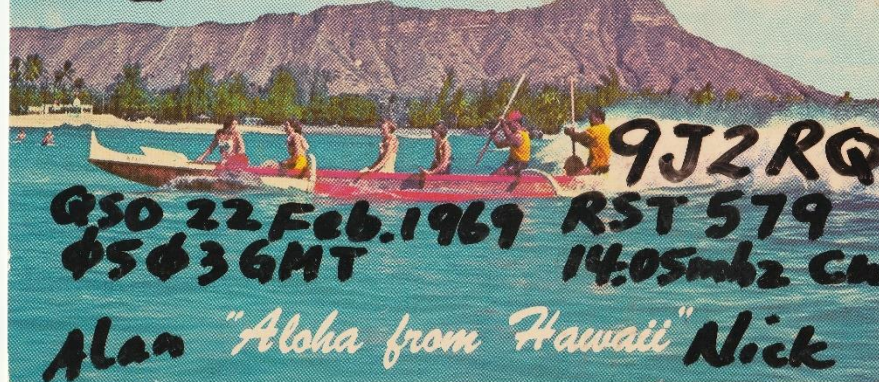
V Q 8 C W


To Radio 9J2RQ Confirming our 2 WAY SSB WC
QSO of 27-12-69 at 1545 GMT on 28 Mcs
Ur Sigs RST 5 x 4

C.R.S. JULIAN
C AND POS MESS
H.M.S. MAURITIUS
VACOAS
MAURITIUS

KW 2000 A TRANSCVR
BPM/L WIRE
PSE/TNX QSL
EX G3UFX VP 8IH
73s Narry

KH6AKK



 Archie Cameron • Apartado 47 • La Ceiba Rep. Honduras

H R 3 A C

This is to certify that 9J2RQ established two-way
communication with the above named radio station on 28 MC
at 18-25 GMT May 19 70 Your
CW ☐ 2XSSB ☒ DSB ☐ ☐ sigs were logged RST 5 x 9
Xmtr T 4 X B (200 watts), Rcvr, R 4 B Ant T H 6 D X X

This D X Q S O CONFIRMATION is sent to you as a
token of international friendship and fraternity from your brother radio
operator in the República de Honduras.

PSE QSL TNX 73
ARCHIE
Archie

THEY'VE THE WORLD AT THEIR FINGER TIPS

IN bedrooms, attics, huts and shacks, somewhere in Basildon, about 20 keen amateur radio enthusiasts, spend all their spare time contacting other 'hams' all over the world—just by fingertip control.

When I called on Alan Carpenter, (24) of Long Riding, Basildon, I found him busy in a small room off the landing. He was calling Australia—and getting a good response.

"G3RQT calling... G3RQT calling... G3RQT calling... over," he was murmuring into the microphone.

After chatting for a few minutes he closed down in the customary 'ham' language. "This is G3RQT calling it a day for now. All the best seventy-threes to you."

Mr. Carpenter told me: "I've been at it since last December, though I have been in-

terested for five years now."

It is no easy task to become a radio enthusiast.

When one has finally gained the certificate, the next thing is to purchase equipment. Transformers and receivers. This can cost anything from £50 to £300, depending on pocket and choice.

Once a new station has been established, the G.P.O. issue a call sign (G3RQT in the case of Mr. Carpenter—"G" being the symbol of Great Britain).

Every time Mr. Carpenter makes a "contact", he notes down the time of day, band and wavelength. After finish-

ing with his contact, sooner or later, he will send a QSL card to confirm the call. The ham at the other end will do likewise.

Mr. Carpenter has quite a number of these cards pinned up on display.

Many hams go in for certificates. That is to say, they try and work so many countries or countries in the space of say 24 hours. When they do this, they are awarded a certificate.

At the moment, Mr. Carpenter is trying to "work" all the counties in Great Britain—98 I'm told. He has only to get another 14 to gain a "60 counties" certificate.

A coil tester and inspector at Marconi, Mr. Carpenter is also civilian instructor for the Air Training Corps at Basil-

don. Each week, he gives instruction of flight theory and radar to cadets over the air.

In the rules and regulations issued by the G.P.O., it is forbidden for any ham to discuss religion, politics or advertising with another enthusiast.

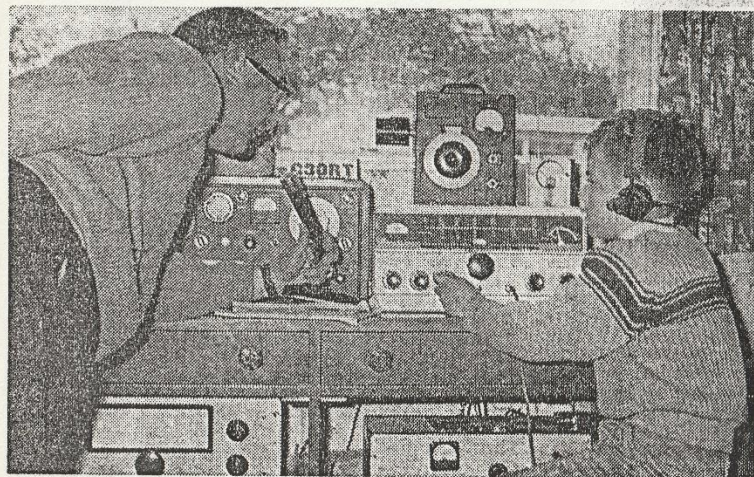
But that does not prevent thousands of hams throughout the world from having very interesting and enjoyable conversations and establishing new friends.

As I was leaving Mr. Carpenter's shack, a foreign voice crackled over the air. He tuned in to make contact with another ham in Italy.

"G3RQT calling... G3RQT calling.... G3RQT calling..."



AMATEUR radio men keep a log of their contacts. "Ham" Ken Norval is no exception and here he puts the finishing touches to his diary of the day.



TUNING in for nine-year-old Adrian is a regular thing for Dad, but Bert Thompson's son is already a pretty competent operator with more than 25 acknowledgment cards to his name.



AMATEUR enthusiast Alan Carpenter spends many a happy hour radioing other "hams" in Europe or the British Isles—or anywhere else in the world.