

MARCH 1979

GB3ER:

For about a year now the repeater has been operating on the temporary repeater built by John G3WCO, this was to enable the original O.F.R. unit and the cavities to be taken away and worked on to try to eliminate in band spurious that was causing desensitisation to the receiver.

Upon examination it was found that to clear the noise from the instability in the transmitter multiplier strip several modifications would be required, this work, including fitting of extra filtering stages, has taken rather longer than was originally expected but we are pleased to report that the O.F.R. unit is now ready to be reinstalled at the site together with the cavities which have also been taken out and realigned. Our thanks to Ian G8IVC for his work on the O.F.R. unit and to Dick G3WHR for his work on the cavities.

During the past year the standby repeater has proved to be quite reliable and only once (due to a fault) has been off the air. This was when the BF180 R.F. amp. transistor decided to give up the ghost and this was replaced and the repeater reinstalled and working within 24 hours. The other time the repeater was taken off was to allow a modification to be made to the tone decoder and timer stage and once again the repeater was only off the air for a matter of a few hours.

We have been fortunate in that the repeater in general has suffered very little from abuse and in general the standard of operation through "the box" has been of a good level and the "Idiot Factor" seems to stay away. For a few weeks we were visited by "the bleeper" which was "Dug In" at the site, but, after the aerial was kicked off, was kindly removed (we surmise) by the installer. This was the main reason the O.F.R. unit was not reinstalled as soon as it was ready.

1296 MHZ. OUTPUT

Further to the application for a 1296 MHZ output of the repeater audio we have been informed that the proposal has been rejected by the Home Office. It is a great pity that all the hard work done by Dick G3WHR will not come to fruit in the way we had hoped but we feel sure that in the long run we will be able to utilise the equipment that Dick has built in some other project.

MEMBERSHIP

The 27 members listed below are those that subscribed to the E.R.G. for the year 1978/1979:

G4CUE	G3VUO	G8ACN	G3WCO	G8MCM	G8MLZ	G3AJS	G3KRZ
G3PLB	G3PLF	G3ZWW	G8LVK	G8GYK	G8OQW	G8IVC	G8CBM
G4CUT	G3AJS	G3WHR	G4ELM	G8KQE	G8MJJ	G4BCH	G4GDK
G4FCX	G3TUO	G8JSD	Southend & District R.S.				

Considering that in the year 1977/1978 some 34 people subscribed to the repeater group this figure is somewhat disappointing but we hope that some of the regular users of GB3ER may feel that they can assist the funds somewhat this year if nudged by user members.

FURTHER PROJECTS:

We would welcome any suggestions (clean ones) from members as to further projects which may be undertaken by the Repeater Group. This could include a proposal for a two metre repeater somewhere in the County or any other project that the membership feel would promote experimentation within the amateur radio spectrum.