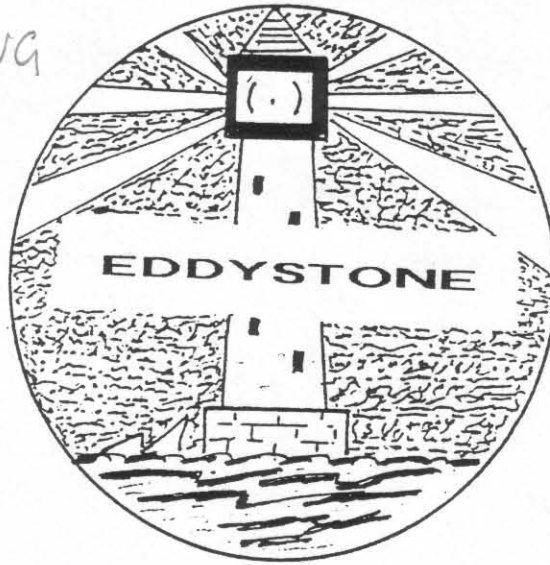


(17)

730/4

Eddystone User Group

EC10 FINE TUNING
 MK II
 880 - p. 15
 GREASE - p. 11
 730 - p. 12
 INJECTOR - p. 14
 880 - p. 15

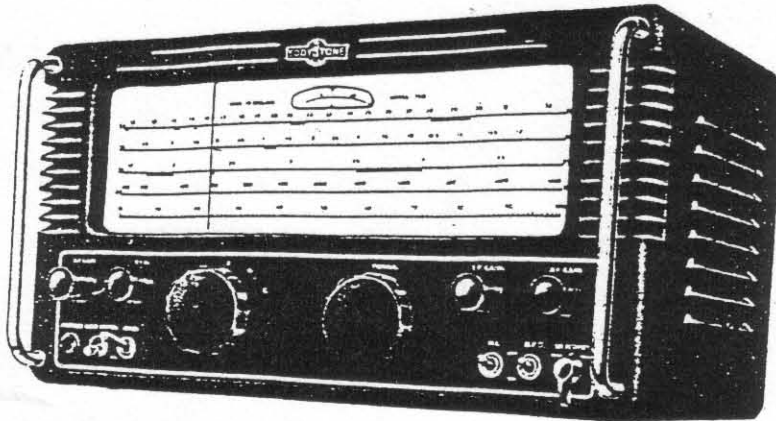


5680kc/s =
 EDINBURGH RESCUE
 4772 - RAF VOL
 2182 - EMERG.
 3812.3 - GAM 1
 5975 - BBC

Newsletter

Issue No. - 17.

Featured Model, - 730/4.



- A NON PROFIT NEWSLETTER FOR EDDYSTONE USERS.
- INFORMATION QUOTED FROM EDDYSTONE LITERATURE BY KIND PERMISSION OF CHRIS PETTITT, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF EDDYSTONE RADIO LIMITED.
- PLEASE ADDRESS ALL MAIL:-
 Eddystone Users Group.
 112 Edgeside Lane.
 Waterfoot.
 Rossendale, Lancs; BB4 9TR.

2,

Annual Subscriptions.

To facilitate dealing with subs; they are always due after receipt of the March/April Issue of the Newsletter, in this case it will be after you receive Issue 18.

New members joining during the subscription year will be sent back issues for the current year, i.e if you join in August then you will, upon receipt of your subs here, be sent the issues for May/June and for July/August. You will then get copies at two monthly intervals until March/April the following year.

Many thanks from Kathy & myself to those members who have actually paid up their subs a year in advance, shows faith in E.U.G.

Some of the first issues, *1, *2, *3 have become almost beyond copying so these three are being re-vamped in order that members wanting back issues can be supplied.

Manuals for most models, or in a few cases copies of magazine review articles, can be copied and sent to members, write and ask for costs inclusive of p & p.

An S.A.E with any letter requiring an answer will help us, EUG is operated on a minimal budget, incidental postage costs can mount up over a year. Many Thanks.

" DAYZITE Ltd. Lisle Street. LONDON. WC 2."

- Several photocopied pages from this firms catalogue for 1935 have been sent to EUG by D. Fletcher, apparently a 'Cycle and Wireless Factor.' Interesting to EUG since they sold Eddystone components and valves. In that year Eddystone were offering a 'Multi-switched 5 waveband coil packs' - that is what we now call Long, Medium, and 3 Shortwave ranges. At a cost of 35 shillings this was far more than many families total income per week. Contrast this with the cost, from the same catalogue, of a 'Gents Road Racer Bicycle' at a mere £5-2-6d. The cost of valves bears noting too, an MP/PEN was 18-6d, and a PT41B output valve would set you back £1-2-6d. Radio was a costly hobby then, some say it still is.

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- A 640 ON TRIAL.-

- Dave Wilkins can remember the early postwar period when his father, an active 'ham' at the time, had a pre production S.640 on trial at home, to evaluate the set on behalf of Eddystone. This was not an isolated case as the offer was made to a number of active hams around the world. Good sales practice as it turned out since all the comments were good and enhanced sales considerably of this top range receiver. Very few mods were needed throughout the lifetime of the 640, a tribute to the designers who were working under very difficult conditions in those early afterwar years. All materials were still in very short supply and money was tight. The cost of a 640 was more than a months wages for most workers. One Australian Dx-er wrote to the Eddystone Company that 'compared with my SX28 the signal to noise ratio seems little more than miraculous, the 640 has been an eye opener to me as regards just what is possible on 10 and 20 metres.' My own first sight of one was at an amateur radio show put on at the Crane Theatre in Liverpool in the late 40s. I was never again satisfied with my collection of war surplus models, i.e the BC453-4-5, the HRO, and the BC348. In those days still at grammar school the hope of owning a 640 was minimal, I now have three.

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- MEMBERS FREE ADS.-

- WANTED, model EC10, mark II, ring Norman on Chorley, 0257 - 273976.
- HELP ! can any member in area of Malton, North Yorks; help with the repair of my 840A, my hands are not so good for this work. Will pay reasonable price. Ring John on 09443 - 298.
- WANTED, for my model 750, a finger plate/escutcheon and a scale plate, in good condition please. Write to Lou Albert 9 Augusta Street, Warners Bay, NSW, Australia, 2282.
- WANTED; copy of SW mag back in the '70s with circuit for a transistorised product detector for the model 730/4, can recall it had a pink cover, will pay for copying or copy and return mag to you. Write Ken Taylor, 23 The Chestnuts, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 3YN.

4. - MEMBERS FREE ADS, cont; -

- WANTED, any Eddystone/Stratton plug in coils and variable condensers so that I can reconstruct some of the circuits in their 1930s -40s Booklets. Will pay all costs. Please write Daved Patrick, G8KAP, The cottage, Stockdale Wath, Raughton Head, Carlisle, CA5 7DP.
- WANTED, info or circuit for the Taylormeter Model 88B, please phone Charles on 0905 - 774358.
- FOR SALE, in very good working order S680X model, £95, please phone Cambridge, 0223 - 843408. Ask for David.
- WANTED, good price paid for uncut Eddystone diecast chassis or a scrap 'all world two' chassis considered. Phone Bernard Litherland, Wiltshire, 0225 - 891 - 254.
- WANTED, for EC 958 model, Plinth speaker No; 989, G.P. speaker No; 935 or 889, 400 ohm earphones, Pair of tapered mounting blocks. Write or phone, Pat Mooney, 57 Johnstown Rd, Dun Laoghaire, Dublin, Ireland. Tel;- Dublin 2856380.
- WANTED info on where to acquire T1154/R1155 assembly in working order. Please write to R.C Reilly, Air Traffic Control, Lands End Aerodrome, Penzance, TR19 7RL.
- WANTED, model 40A as used by GPO/BT for interference chasing, please ring Sam Rees on 0269 - 871 - 382.
- WANTED, any of following models EA12, 730/4, 750, 830/8, please write James Reilly, 9 Churchill Crescent, Ballymacconnell, Bangor, Northern Ireland, BT20 5RN.
- WANTED, info or manual for the model 31A receiver, write to J. Gorton, 43B Mill Rd, Colchester, CO4 5LE.
- WANTED, info on the EM34 model also want 500Kc/s crystal in glass B7G mounting, also source of unequal pin mains connectors, write Graham Leese, 15 Ewden Way, Pogmoor, Barnsley, South Yorks; S75 2JW.
- SELL, model 640 for £25, Jack Tait, 10 St Pauls Cresc; Shanklin, I.O.W.
- SELL 940 receiver, good working order, £120. Ring Bill on 041 - 649 - 4345. Also swop mains PSU type 924 for EC10 for a type 899F speaker, cash adjustment if need be.
- WANTED, info on product detector mod for 960 ? Can you help ? Harry Kemp. 13 Devonshire Rd. Newbury Park. Ilford.Essex.

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- Sferics.-

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- Allan says that a very old tip with the EB34 double diode is to carefully sand off a small one centimetre circle on the very top of the valve, this enables the glow from the heater to be seen, as with all the other valves in his 640 receiver. Nice to be able to check at a glance that all are 'on'.

- The $2\frac{1}{2}$ watt output from the 6V6 on such as the 659 and 640 is far more than is needed in the average shack. Several members have written to say that they have modded their set to take a type 6J5/L63 triode. Output is more than enough and far less heat is generated in the case.

- From the miscellaneous file, Chris Bonington's successful climb of Mt Everest in 1975 was helped along by the use of several hundred plastic mugs for the team members and sherpas. Made by Guess who ? Laughton & Sons the original parent company of Strattons and Eddystone Radio. In the 1930s an Oxford University team attempt used Stratton VHF transportable radios for inter camp communications.

- A 659 tip from Vince, the wiring to the top caps of V1, V2, V3, and V4 could do with being replaced by now. Age will have turned the wiring insulation to either a dry crumbly compound or to a sticky goo, depending on the atmosphere it has been in.

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- FAULTS COMMON TO CERTAIN MODELS.-

- 990 series panel meter. Recent versions of the /S and /R which have appeared on the market seem to have one thing in common, due either to conditions of use or storage the panel meter has internal rusting. So far 7 EUG members have commented upon this after the set was purchased. The cure as detailed by one member is to remove and open up the meter, carefully, it is supposedly sealed but not so in the one I saw. The rust will be found on the inner faces of the stator laminations, a first squirt from a derust aerosol, and after about 10 minutes a second squirt seems to do the trick. After another ten minutes a squirt of compressed air cleared any residue remaining.

- EC10 Mk II Fine tune. 'Twitchy' fine tune on this model ? The fine tune control is a pot not a variable condenser, a dirty or damaged track in the pot will cause the 'twitch'. The simplest cure is a replacement pot, cleaning is usually only a temporary repair. If no fine tune at all then check the varactor diode &

6r

the associated tuning voltage. Funny I was always taught that the carbon track type should never have D.C on them, just signal A.C, yet it always happens.

- EC10 and EB35 speakers. Lookalikes maybe yet the EC10 uses a 3 ohm voice coil whilst the EB35 uses a 10 ohm in the early versions and an 8 ohm in the later versions. This latter depends on date of manufacture and is no doubt because whilst 8 ohms were 'off the shelf' the 10 ohms had to be specially made.

- 840C magic eye. No green display on the tuning indicator of this model ? Check socket connections as the DM70 is notorious for bad base contacts. No heater volts ? Check if not an open circuit heater as the 1.4 volts can easily be exceeded in an AC/DC line-up. If there is a green display but it varies little or not at all with tuning, then go for the AVC circuitry. Leaky paper condensers or resistors gone high are common old age symptoms.

- 670 and 840 series. Why the fancy series/parallel heater wiring and not a simple 'inline' series circuit ? Since with this system there is a chance of one failed heater causing others to over run and fail ? Well if you add up the total heater volts it will greatly exceed the lowest voltage at which the set is required to operate, 110 volts. No other way out with a multi valve set so if yours does go dead check quickly that 'normal' glow exists inside and there is no super bright valve or valves being fed more than the allotted voltage.

- 640 output distorted. A common enough one this, must have happened to every 640 at some time. In almost every case the fault was traced to a dried out electrolytic in the Kathode bias circuit, fit a 50 volt working type. Trouble is that with age the wiring insulation has become friable, and when replacing the subchassis it is very easy to trap the HT or LT wiring between chassis and subchassis. A nasty smell of burning and possibly a damaged mains transfo is the result.

- 940 on the HF ranges. Loss of sensitivity on the HF end has been traced in several cases to a low output from the local oscillator, reduced because C45 in the grid of V4 is duff. It should be a 30 pF but on test was in one case down to 12 pF, signals were non existant on 14 and 21 Mc/s. A ceramic replacement was the cure. Worth checking C44 as this has also been found leaky on occasion.

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No Calibrator ?

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- Do you have one of those models which has no BFO ? do you want to listen to CW/SSB ? Several members have written in to say how they have got around this problem, ingenuity unbounded amongst EUG members. One simple method appears to be the add-on BFO kit as sold by some advertisers, make one up yourself if you have the knowledge as it is very much cheaper. Another method is to incorporate a simple BFO into the actual receiver circuitry, I have an EB35 where the IF rejection filter, a 455 Kc/s tuned circuit in the aerial circuit, has been taken out of the aerial circuit and rewired as a simple 455 Kc/s oscillator with the few components wired to its tags, ergo one built-in BFO. From Terry Ellis comes another idea - that of I.F regeneration for CW/SSB reception. Cannot myself see this as being very satisfactory since it would disable the set partially when the AVC operated on the increased signal level. One member has built both calibrator and BFO into a small plastic box which stands on top of his 670A thus he can get 1 Mc/s and 100 Kc/s pips up to 30 Mc/s and can tune the BFO for upper/lower sideband. He says that the pips can enable him to set up his 670A on a frequency to within a few Kc/s by using the logging scale to extrapolate between 100 Kc/s pips and sit on a frequency until the desired station comes in.

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- SFERICS - EUG has obtained a model 930 this covers from 50 to 130 Mc/s in one band and is for A.M / F.M using 10 valves. Question is does anybody out there know who this was made for ? Suggestion from a member that it was for the BBC does seem to be logical, from when they were evaluating the VHF band and did have both A.M and F.M signals radiated for test purposes.

- SFERICS - The EK20 has surfaced again, one member said to me several years ago that it was an aborted production model of which but a few 'got out' - another says it is a MIMCO variant so come on, somebody must be able to put the facts straight.

- SFERICS - For those who keep writing in, sorry EUG has no info on any of the other 'one make' clubs/groups such as Collins, HRO, or Racal. Would like to help but Kathy and I have enough on our plate with EUG, as things are our local postman must be the busiest in the area. Suggestion, - why not start a group you

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Featured Receiver - 730/4.

- This 15 valve model was produced in vast numbers for all the armed forces and many other 'civvy' government departments. It was also sold to many private companies such as the then BMC, now Austin Rover, and went abroad to various foreign governments. I have seen a Canadian Army version of the manual and know of some 730 variants in Scandinavia. It is an updated version of the 730/1 model, operation is from normal mains supplies of 110-230 volts A.C at 40-60 c/s but removal of a 'link' plug at the rear will permit use from external supplies of 6.5 volt A.C and 250 volts D.C. at 120 mA. Normal mains consumption is 80 watts. With five ranges the coverage is from 0.48 to 30 Mc/s, an I.F of 450 Kc/s and an audio filter for C.W in conjunction with a 4 position selectivity switch give a best bandwidth of 100 c/s at 6 db down. The circuit is the almost conventional one of 2 R.F stages, heptode frequency changer, but separate local oscillator, 2 I.F stages and the usual D.D.T detector/AVC stage. A double triode A.F stage feeds the pentode output stage, this has both low impedance speaker output and 600 ohm line output. Phones are fed by RC coupling from the anode of the output valve and cater for medium to high Z types. A second double diode is used for the NL and 'S' meter stages, the 'S' meter being in the top left hand corner of the scale plate as is usual Eddystone practice. A 500 Kc/s calibrator gives pips up to the HF end of the range and the pointer can be reset by a front panel control. For some undefinable reason the HT on/off switch is to be found inside the cabinet, it can only be reached by opening up the lid. even more strange when you think that the 730 was very often rack mounted. Two paralleled aerial sockets are fitted, one Pye type and one BNC. Input impedance averages 70 to 80 ohms over the full coverage of the set, possibly a little higher on range 5. Sensitivity is given as better than 1 microvolt for 15 db signal to noise and with 50 milliwatts out. A maximum of 1 watt output is adequate for normal locations. The Kathode follower stage allows use of the Eddystone RTTY/FSK unit, output into a 70 - 80 ohm load is around 300 mV. Both local oscillator and BFO have a stabilised HT feed and overall stability is quoted as better than 150 parts per million per hour. Mechanical linkage varies the relative positions of the I.F primary/secondary coils to give variable selectivity this is supplemented by a crystal filter. Gain compensation

730/4 cont;

is fitted to the selectivity control via resistors and extra switch contacts. The 'S' meter is only operative in the 'narrow' position, but I have seen some models modded to permit its use on all positions. Front panel controls are range, maintuning, On/off, phones socket, AVC, NL, RF gain, AF gain, BFO on/off, BFO tune, crystal phasing, AF filter, selectivity, calibrator, and cursor adjust. Two commonly met variants of the /4 are the /6 and /8, the former has provision for 4 switched crystal spot frequencies between 2 - 20 Mc/s, the latter has this and a modified range 5 coverage, from 200 to 410 Kc/s. No doubt this was for coverage of the 'beacon band' when in aviation or marine service. The block schematic and valve line-up are in this issue and since this model was exclusively fitted with CV types these are shown.

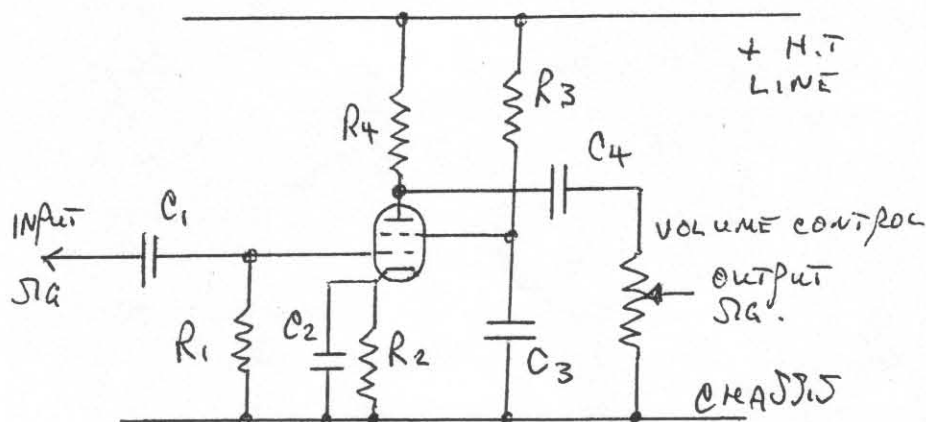
- - - - -
- HINTS, from members. -

- Do you have the 730 or 830 model with the crystal switch for spot frequencies ? Why not fit crystals for YOUR favourite station be it broadcast or utility ? As an example Dan has fitted his 830 with crystals for the following, 2182 Kc/s the emergency channel, 4772 Kc/s for RAF volmet, 3812.3 for GAM 1, and 5975 for the BBC W/S. Instant selection and no fiddling.

- How about making this for your NDB chasing, Alan has a loop aerial of 20 x 20 inches, 40 turns wound on a sheet of plywood, with a 2 turn coupling loop to the input of his receiver. The loop is resonated by a mini variable condenser of the 'tranny' type which is fitted into a hole in the plywood square, both gangs are connected in parallel and an extra fixed condenser is needed. Works well for MW Dx-ing too. He has fitted a mini slide switch to add or remove capacity to give both MW coverage or the NDB band coverage at will. Results are fantastic he says.

- Answer to queries from several members as to why low/leaky condensers can cause burnt out resistors or just low value voltage on valves. Lets go by the circuit over the page, if C1 is leaky then the load will be in parallel with R1 and will lower the grid voltage. If C2 is leaky then being across R2 it will effectively lower the kathode voltage. If C3 is leaky then it will allow current via R3 to pass to earth, lowering the screen volts, possibly also

the extra current will overload R3 causing it to overheat. If C4 is leaky then it will allow some HT across the volume control, making it noisy, possible to burn it out. Since more current is drawn through R4 it will overheat, anode volts will be low too. All clear now Peter, and Eric ?



 - STERBA ARRAYS. -

- The October issue of QST has an article on the use of wire constructed Sterba arrays, curtain arrays to some, hung from trees and other supports. Having had some personal, professional experience of these aerial systems I do know how potent they can be, IF you are interested in signals from one direction that is. Size is such that for those of you interested in 2, 4, 6, or even 10 metres reception it is possible to put a multi element array up in a fair sized garden, results can be surprising since they are not as critical for tuning as are dipoles, can operate well on harmonically related bands, have a fair degree of gain, and seem not to need much height for a good result. Measurements can be found in most of the RSGB and Arrl antenna books and they are cheap enough to make, wire and insulators being the only items needed. Supports ? well nylon line and trees, drainpipes or chimneys are ready made. Many broadcasters use them for transmitting, VOA, BBC and DW are all partial to them. A 2 element array can be good enough.

 - NEW MEMBERS. -

- New members recently from Norway, West Indies, Canada, Eire, as well as those in the UK, welcome to EUG. Don't forget your free ads.

- Hardened Grease.-

- No, not an automotive article in your newsletter. The problem is one that has been with us for some time, and will get worse on those older models. The grease used on the gears and rotor bearings of the tuning condenser of the older valve type sets was not meant to last for ever, nor even as long as it has in many cases. Internal heat will have evaporated any volatile constituent of the original grease. The hardening might not be noticed in normal daily use but in any set not used for some time it is apparent. Letters on the subject arrive regularly at EUG, have been doing so since EUG started. The letter from Harry Green on this matter warns us that of all the possible solvents that we might think of for use in softening the hard grease the one to avoid at all costs is common 'meths'. About a year ago when he had the hard-goo problem whilst restoring his 750 he did use what was to hand - meths, to hand since his daughter used it to harden the skin of her feet, for ballet dancing. It did the job and the goo came away quite easily from the drive gears & the tuning gang rotor bearings. He replaced the grease with a form of thin silicone grease as used by garages, all seemed back to normal. Recently however it was necessary to delve into the 750 to replace a duff TCC paper condenser that had become a low resistor value, not good in a screen decoupling circuit. He was not too pleased to find that there was considerable rust all around the rotor bearings and various other places where meths had been applied. Only then did Harry realise that meths is alcohol diluted with H₂O, not surprising he had rust. A full weekend was needed to dismantle and derust the 750, some of the chassis plating had been stripped too. An expensive and time consuming way to find out what not to use. The sets at EUG have been degreased many times over the years and frequently regreased with ordinary white vaseline in the fifties. Nowadays I use a silicone grease supplied for model engineering. A recent check on an 840A regreased in the 70s with vaseline does show all to be okay, no hardening noticeable. A check on a 640 done in 1968 shows all okay, with no rust, no hardening. A handy softener - if you keep it away from plastic - is the dilutant sold with tippex, liquid paper. A warning however, this is trichlorethane and the fumes must not be inhaled, have a window open when using it.

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12/

- 750 Variants again.-

- Is there a 'super 750' with built in 'S' meter ?? Another letter from a member who queries this, saying he has heard of one. Well so have I John, just heard and no more. The rumour has been around as long as the 750 itself I would guess, until I get a photo or some hard documentation then it will stay a rumour.

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- 730 Variants again.-

- A different matter this, we can be sure of regular mail from members on this model. Kathy throws her hand in here and passes the mail to me. This time the letter is from a member who does have a /1 and a /4, he is asking re the other variants which he has seen advertised in the magazines over the years. This was a series of professional receivers, not for the amateur and SWL, most went to the MOD or other government departments, some went abroad to friendly foreign governments. By far the most common must have been the 730/4, and this was classed by the Company as being the 'new standard receiver' in 1958. There was a /1A with slight changes for the MOD and then the /5 which had a completely different LF range of 0.15 to 0.3 Kc/s. The /9 also had this coverage on range 5. The /10 was classified as a 'Fighting Vehicles Version' of the /4, meaning ruggedised construction and mountings. The /6 was similar to the /4 excepting that it had crystal control facilities for the local oscillator, controlled by a channel switch mounted concentric with the range knob. Sam says that he considers his price of £110 for the /4 to be 'fair' value.

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- No B.F.O ? -

- Do you have a 670, or 870 model ? wish you had a BFO for SSB or CW reception ? Several members have written in re this problem saying that they had resolved the matter in one of several ways. In some cases they have bought - and built - the 'add on' BFO kits as advertised in several of the magazines, these are usually simple single transistor circuits built on a mini PCB and battery operated for external mounting, Alan has fitted his inside the case of his 670A and runs it from a 4 volts DC supply obtained from across the dial lamp, another of his mods, rectified by a small bridge rectifier unit. Another approach from Simon is to build a single valve BFO circuit on a simple right angled piece of aluminum which he mounted above the chassis, works well he says.

- At a recent rally an item on the B & B stall attracted my attention, pays to get there early and to be wide awake. I did at first think it was an external, diecast cased 'S' meter and was of course interested. Doubly so when I got hold of it for it was a fish of a different kind. It turned out to be the *678 Modulation Level Indicator, the case is the same diecasting but with a small hole in the top through which sprouts a small telescopic aerial. In this case the aerial rod was missing, apart that all seemed well, and I got it for the asking price of £20. A lot maybe to pay for what is just a few pennies worth of components, worth it to me though. Once home it was carefully checked over, all seemed to be in original shape and good order and so an already much 'cannibalised' tranny was deprived of its telescopic aerial, some slight mods to the base and it was fitted to the *678 unit. The now complete Eddystone Accessory was tested and found to be working okay, no attempt was made to recalibrate or check present calibration since no transmitting is done these days from my QTH. Lack of interest not equipment this latter.

- Duff, Non working EC958. -

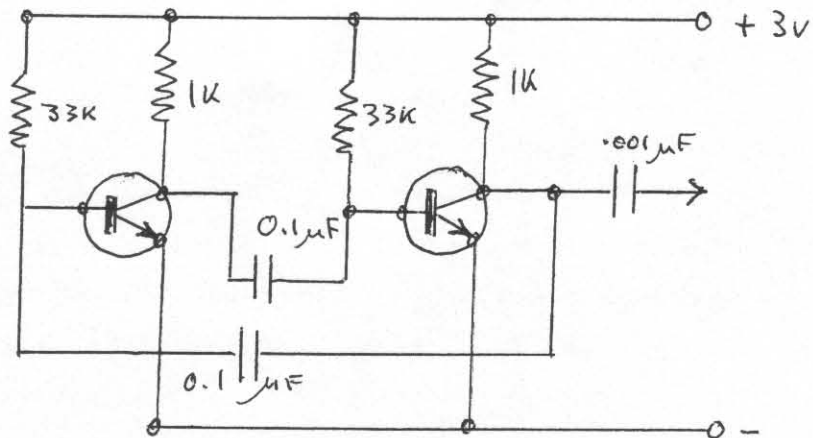
- This 958 has seen better days admittedly, says Bryan. Scruffy externally and stored in damp warehouse conditions for several years since being stripped from a trawler headed for the scrapyard. Little was known about this model and so the manual was obtained and some basic checks done. All seemed to be there and so after the set had been stored in the cupboard with the hot water tank for several days to eliminate damp the set was powered up on the bench. Some degree of trepidation whilst a watch was kept for signs of distress, lights but no sound, more importantly no smoke nor smell. Power off again and some measurements taken, some visual inspection too. The socket and plug strips have given trouble over the years I had been informed by EUG. Sure enough all had to be cleaned of deposits caused no doubt by use in a marine atmosphere and storage on the dockside. A liberal dose of switchcleaner fluid whilst brushing with a stiff bristled brush cleared most of the muck and once more they were re connected. The mini co-ax plug/sockets too needed some attention, several had green goo around the cable inner, these were reterminated. Power was once more applied and Hallelujah sounds from the front panel speaker, a short length of wire to the aerial socket and

14,

signals could be heard and tuned. At this point the set was once more powered down and a complete and thorough clean-up job done on both inside and outside of the 958, some further small cosmetic repairs were done. The receiver is now working okay all ranges but no calibration work has been attempted due to lack of good test gear at this station. It pulls in the signals admirably and is a good companion to my 640, for the price asked, £125, I do consider it to have been a bargain. My first Eddystone solid state model which seems to perform superbly despite its age and the poor treatment it had obviously received. And No, it is not for sale so don't bother asking. Bryan Taylor.

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- Transistor signal injector.-

- Needing a source of RF/IF/AF signals for fault tracing on my much suffering 730/4 I found the following circuit in an old, 1960s magazine. Basic, simple to make, yet versatile, only wish I had made it years ago. Components needed are not critical, many types of transistor, both PNP and NPN would work in the circuit. I chose two type BC182 since they were available in the junk box, other items came from the same source. The case is a thick marker pen barrel, fitting the cap will protect ones fingers from the pointed probe. Construction was on a mini strip of perfboard, power is from two RM675 calculator cells, on/off is a miniature push switch. Some care is needed to tailor the PC board, cells, and switch to fit the pen case. The AF signal produced is a square wave consisting of many harmonics which are detectable up to 32 Mc/s on my 750 receiver.



- Noiseless ? -

- My 880/2 had been left on for some time tuned to 5680 whilst waiting for further transmissions from Edinboro' Rescue, an oil rig evacuation had been taking place that afternoon. The visiting friend had brought in his 870 model to have the duff metal rectifier disconnected, but left in situ, and silicon diodes fitted in its place. We had been working on the 870 some 15 minutes when the rescue 'copter came on again. My friend expressed his astonishment as he had not realised that the 880/2 was even switched on. Not the first time that that the noise level, or lack of, on this set had been remarked on. It is a remarkably quiet receiver and a joy to use when any long periods of monitoring are called for. The one Meg per range is a great help when searching for a wanted signal as the tuning can easily be set to within less than one Kc/s. If this article tempts you to look around for an 880/2 then it is only fair to warn you of the one BIG problem associated with this model, you may think the 770 or 830 series are heavy but try this one for weight, almost twice that of any other. From those who do know it the first comment is always 'it weighs a ton'- well it almost does.

- Drive cords, AGAIN.-

- A letter from one of our New Zealand members took issue with the idea of using nylon to replace the steel drive wire, seemingly unobtainable here, as used on most models. Ross Paton works for the N.Z subsidiary of Philips and he states that a bronze wire 'cord' which is still in the current Philips catalogue will do nicely. He gives the stores coding and description as follows:-

Bronze Wire on 100 metre reels, code number is 4822-321-30051, and it is multi stranded and has an overall diameter of 0.08 mm² so if you know anybody at a Philips dealer you are 'fixed'. My enquiries to the Philips Service Dept over here got me nowhere though, either ignorance or couldn't care attitude I know not, but after being passed from one person to another I was finally promised a call back, that was weeks ago.

- In his letter he also mentions other items of interest, i.e replacing resistors/condensers in older models. His idea is that the newer metal oxide types should be used, lower noise. That silver mica types should be replaced with ceramic or polystyrene types. These measures will increase the signal to noise ratio to a marked degree. Whilst I do

agree with his comments I felt that I would rarely be tempted to go so far with a receiver unless the items were actually faulty. Maybe if it was my only set and I was using for long periods of listening then I would, since mine are part of a collection, used in turn for short periods then I cannot see it being done. The logistics of it are frightening with so many sets to do. However if your aim is to get your much loved, much used 940 or 830 or 640 into tip-top condition then by all means go ahead BUT remember after so much surgery a complete re-alignment would be necessary of both RF and IF. And remember that your sig; gen; could be way off calibration, rather you than me.

- Ross also mentions that apart several alien makes he has a 680/2 a 640, a 940 and a 670A variant which comes disguised as a MIMCO cabin tuner type 2232A, unlike the 670A it does cover the 'tropical' bands.

- Just a point, Australian and N.Z members now outnumber Scottish members, just what have those canny Scots got against Eddystones ?

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- TANJUG -

- This was the Yugoslav news agency and during the SerboCroat conflict had been monitored frequently on RTTY. Using an 830/8 and a Tasco Telereader there were no problems once the 830 had reached thermal stability, about 15 minutes, drift was negligible. It can be left on frequency and be happily printing 4 hours later. I do think that my 940 could equal this but it was as usual monitoring a SAR channel and fed into a VOX operated tape recorder. Point is, recently some of the TANJUG frequencies have delivered quite different copy, in english but giving a different slant to the conflict. Can bothsides be using the various transmitters ?

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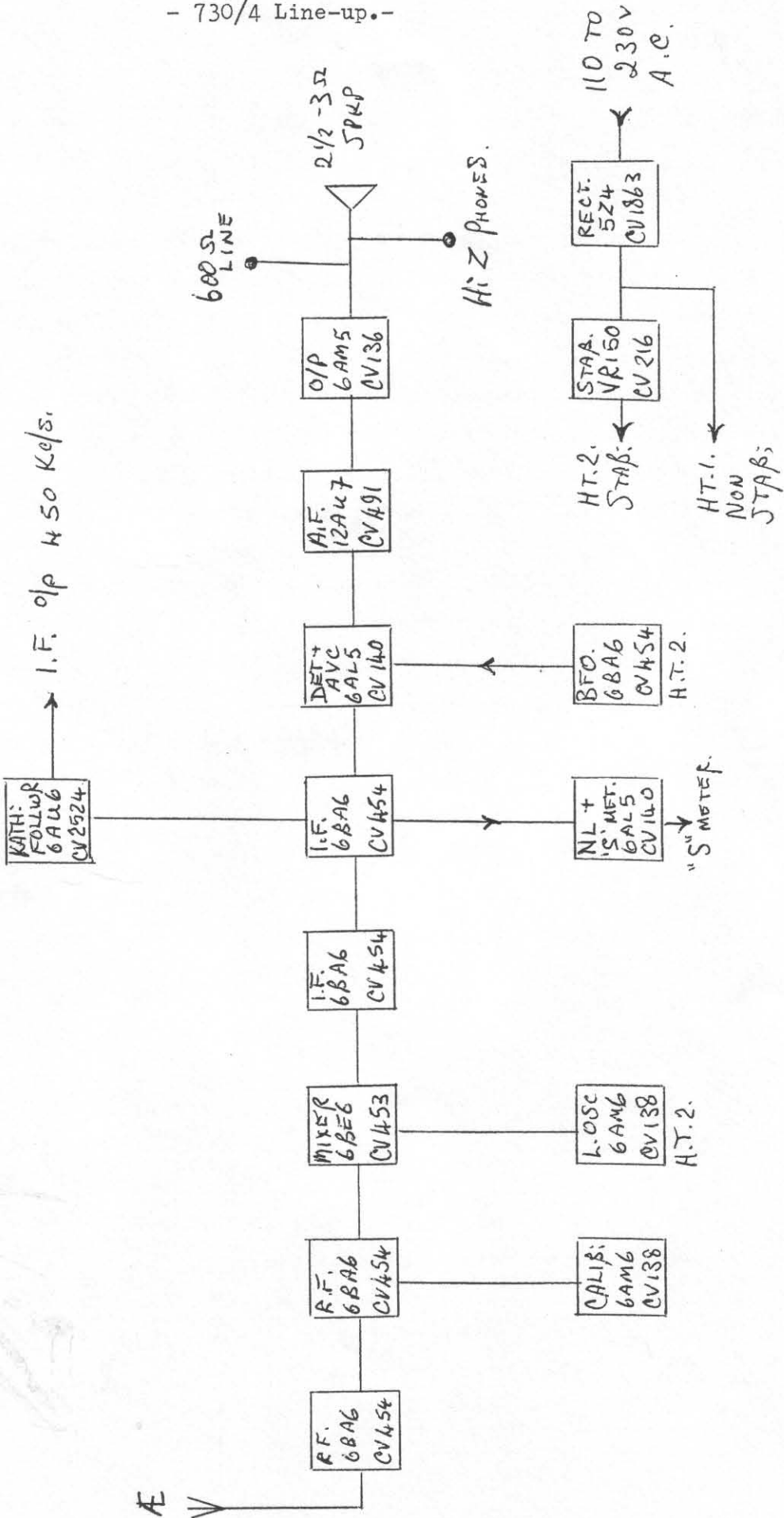
- Spares. -

- Had a 770R donated recently, good only for spares. No don't all shout at once. From the list of needs that I keep from your ads and letters I was able to share the useful bits amongst several members, thanks Steve, you made some guys happy.

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- Thanks a Million. -

- Once more thanks are due to Richard Baker for pulling us out of a Black Hole. He has been able to supply the circuits that were so much needed by members, as per last issue. The ECR and the 770S can now be copied for you if you still need them, just drop a line to Kathy.



MODEL 730/4.

- QUERIES FROM THE MAIL.-

- Why the old models such as the Sphinx, nobody has them ? Well the last bit is WRONG of course, several members have got working models of the Sphinx, two others are at present doing the necessary restoration work on their Sphinx. And info on these 1930s sets does seem popular with most members.

- What happened to the Index and New Listing of models that was promised ? Delayed not Forgotten, a review copy of the Listing is being checked now, will hopefully come to all members with their issue 18, last of Year 3. See our third year out with a bang. (blown electrolytic - no doubt).

- When is my 1993 sub due ? Same month as last year, and the year before. It will be due when you receive your last issue for Year Three, i.e. number 18, in April. Your first issue of the Year Four will feature the Kilodyne Four, and yes there are some still around - and working, both the mains and battery versions.

- Which model was manufactured in the highest quantity ? It would seem to have been the 730 series I believe, and of the many versions I suspect the /4 came tops for quantity. Mind you the 770 series must have been pretty close.

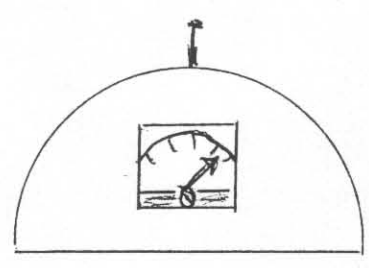
- What is my Marconi Pacific worth ? HELP. I give up, as with 'real' Eddystones I guess it is worth whatever you think it to be. An 1837 went for £250 in July last year, is that any help ?

- MEMBERS ADS.-

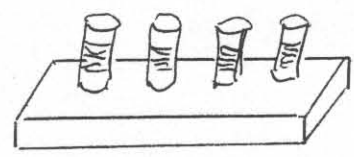
- Nice to hear from Bill Gibson that his ad in last issue was successful, as were two others to my knowledge. If you have any radio related ad, preferably Eddystone but not specifically so, then why not have it in the newsletter, you get practically worldwide coverage now, Papua to the West Indies, Canada to Norway and most points in between. Free to all members, well no I guess you do have to buy the stamp to send it to EUG.

- HELP HELP -

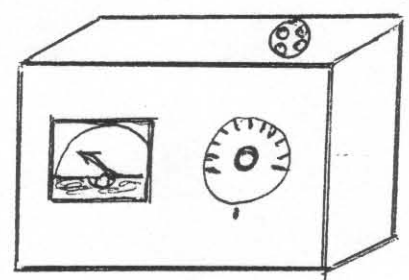
- Letter from Don Owen can you identify the following item for him, is in a diecast case similar to the 'S' meter case but has small telescopic aerial on top, is marked model 533 and comes with 4 coils mounted on separate wood base, please let us know if you have any info.



COILS FOR 160, 80
40, 20 etc.



- Letter from Ron Parker asking for help in identifying the following item, marked Eddystone. There is a four pin socket on the top as if for a plug in coil. Info to Eug.



METER IS MARKED
TUNE FOR MAX
DEFLECTION.

- Looks like that is it for issue 17, hope that printing quality is better this time, Kathy does a random check before posting but inevitably some poor pages get through, it would be an impossible task to check every single copy the way that EUG has mushroomed lately. Letters from members show that the ads are working well, have made some happy members of late, new acquisitions via the free ads. On the bad side the sub for next year is due as from your receipt of next issue number 18, printing costs and postage mean that it will have to be £10. Many thanks to those who have already paid and those of you who send extra for incidental postage, CU next issue.

Kathy & Ted.