

KRG Newsletter 2. April 1975.

GENERAL.

You will have noticed a conspicuous silence from the Repeater Group since the first Newsletter in December. This does not mean that we have been idle, but publicity has been impossible because events have been changing direction very rapidly. At one point, the entire project was in jeopardy due entirely to circumstances beyond our control. In fact, no sooner was a Newsletter draughted, than it became inaccurate or irrelevant. This is the Third re-Write of Newsletter No.2, the first being on the point of going to press in February! Furthermore, the last few weeks have been dogged by printing problems.

However, the situation has now stabilised, and we are once more confident of the success of the project. All this information should still be accurate by the time you read it. It is also hoped that Newsletters will be more frequent in the future.

PERSONNEL.

Dick Ferryman, G4BBH, has found it necessary to resign the chairmanship of the Repeater Group for personal reasons. For the time being, his place will be taken by Colin Marsh, who is an Assistant Executive Engineer on the Post Office, and is G8IYN.

The Technical Committee has been chosen by the project Manager, G3VJF. It is divided into small teams,

Team leaders are: — G3VJF (Tx and Rx modification).
 G8IYN (Aerials and Power init).
 G8FEZ (VHF filters).
 G8BRD (Logic circuitry),
 and G8FME (Tone access and Closedown).

Other members are: — G3XDV, G8EQZ, G3EMU, and G3ROO.

COVERAGE TESTS.

It has not yet been possible to carry out the second set of coverage tests originally scheduled for January. This is because we cannot put up our aerials until the Guston mast is extended to its full 200 ft, since they will be on the new section. We were given to understand that the extension was to be completed by last Christmas, but the latest estimate is June. Obviously there is nothing we can do to speed this up, as we are already very much indebted to Mr. Smye-Rumsby for letting us use his mast.

When the aerials are on the mast, the Committee will check them before announcing the date and frequencies to those on our mailing list.

CRYSTALS

C&C Electronics have kindly offered to donate the necessary crystals for the repeater and state that they will be stocking up with quantities of crystals for R4 to suit most rigs.

THE TECHNICAL SIDE.

Progress has been a little slow so far because of lack of funds. However, the logic circuitry is being worked out, and the callsign generator and the power unit, which have been donated, are already working.

The aerials have been purchased, and to avoid problems when they are on the mast, they have been checked on the 'Polyskop' at the University of Kent. They were found to be an excellent 50 Ohm match, and resonant at the required frequency.

Owing to an unfortunate misunderstanding, the Dymar 801a, which was to have been donated, is required elsewhere, and is no longer available for use as the Repeater. However, another rig with a similar specification has just been purchased, and is undergoing conversion to 2m.

THE REPEATER PROPOSAL.

Some people have expressed surprise that the proposal has not yet been sent to the Home Office. However, it is not merely a request for a Licence, it has to describe reasons for needing a repeater, and must include quite a detailed technical specification, probably running to 3 or 4 pages of foolscap.

At a meeting some weeks ago, the proposal was draughted, but before it could be sent to the RSGB for approval, the transceiver was withdrawn, invalidating a large part of the specification. A new Repeater Proposal will be produced shortly when details of the new rig are available.

TREASURER'S 'S REPORT.

at the time of going to press, we have received £135 in donations, of which £40 came from people who had not promised money at the inaugural meeting. Some of these donations came from outside Kent, including one from G3PQH of Newton Abbott.

At the inaugural meeting, £161 was promised, which leaves £66 of this still to come in. The treasurer would be pleased to receive these donations as soon as possible. Initial expenses are high; the aerials must be very substantial to combat corrosion, and we are going to use a more elaborate aerial system than most repeaters in order to give good coverage. The cost of commercial quality antennas and low loss feeders will amount to £140! We will also have to pay to have the aerials fitted on the 200 ft mast.

The loss of Dick, G4BBH, as chairman will inevitably mean that costs will be higher, and we have now had to buy a rig. All this means that we need more money NOW. Please send donations made payable to: — Kent Repeater Group.

Addressed to: The Treasurer, Paul Nicholson G3VJF, 34 Cliff Avenue,
HERNE BAY CT6 6LZ.

All those sending donations will be put on our mailing list, and will receive information on the progress of the Repeater as it becomes available.

Remember, repeaters cost both time and money. If you want one in Kent, please contribute whatever you can NOW. The technical committee will find the time if YOU provide the cash.

73's Mike,	G3XDV.	Secretary.
Paul,	G3VJF.	Treasurer & Project Manager.
& Colin,	G8IYN.	Chairman.