# Mid Sussex Matters

Volume 6 Issue 3 - 2018

## Our Newsletter

Below a couple of pictures taken during Thinking Day on the Air in Chailey Green.


Inside this issue:



## Coming next month

Part 2 of The Real Morse Code by Louis Varney G5RV

# Mid Sussex Amateur Radio Society 2017— 2018

President
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**E m a i l ( c a l l s i g n ) @ m s a r s . o r g . u k**

(This will only work from a members email address registered with the society)

**Mid Sussex ARS Net Times—all times local**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sunday | 0800 | **3.740MHz+/-QRM** |
| Sunday | 1100 | **145.350MHz** |
| Weekdays | 1330 | **21.330MHz+/-QRM** |
| Tuesday | 2030 | **3.725MHz+/-QRM (SCARF)** |
| Wednesday | 2000 | **GB3HY 430.900Mhz 438.500Mhz CTCSS 88.5hz** |

**Listen** **Transmit**

Any problems for GB3HY go to http://www.msars.org.uk/repeaters.html#gb3hy

# THE REAL MORSE CODE.

by

## LOUIS VARNEY, G5RV.

In the Century Magazine of April 1888 published by the Century Company, New York, there appeared a most interesting article entitled "The American Inventors of the Telegraph", sub-headed "With special references to the services of Alfred Vail". The article contains a great deal of fascinating information about Samuel Finlay Breese Morse, who had already achieved a reputation as an historical painter and had been appointed Professor of the "Literature of the Arts of Design".by the University of New York in 1835.

In 1832 Samuel Morse, on a voyage from Le Havre to New York in the vessel "Sulley" had conceived and drawn in his sketch book an apparatus for transmitting and recording signals at a distance by electro-magnetism. Until Morse became one of the Faculty of the University, he had been prevented by the nomadic life imposed upon him as a painter and by his straitened circumstances, from making an effort, beyond the molding and casting of a set of leaden type, to develop his ideas into practice. This, according to his original scheme, was to automatically open and close an electric circuit and thereby transmit certain signals in the form of pulses of direct current to which an arbitary numerical signification was to be given, over a pair of wires.

At this time, Alfred Vail, a son of Judge Stephen Vail who owned the Speedwell Ironworks in New Jersey, was a student at the University after having served his apprenticeship in his fathers ironworks, where he had acquired considerable skill in the design and construction of various mechanical devices. During the latter portion of the time that Alfred Vail had been a student at the university, the chair of Chemistry was occupied by Professor Leonard D.Gale. In January 1837, Professor Morse who, in the privacy of his appartments, had constructed a crude but nevertheless operative model exemplifying the principle of the recording telegraph which he had devised aboard the "Sully", took Professor Gale into his confidence and exhibited his invention to him.

Professor Gale, whose knowledge and acquirements were of a character which enabled him to appreciate the ingenuity of the inventor and to forecast the possible success of the invention, became at once deeply interested in the plans of his colleague and thenceforth the assistance which he rendered Morse in his experiments was of the utmost importance and value.

On Saturday, September 2. 1837 Professor Daubeny of Oxford University, then visiting the United States was invited, with others , to witness the operation of the electro-magnetic telegraph at the University of New York. The apparatus had been set up with a circuit of copper wire, stretched back and forth along the walls of a large room. Among the spectators was Alfred Vail, who then saw the apparatus for the first time. cont/...

cont/...

Notwithstanding the crude and imperfect character of the machinery in which the invention was embodied, the results were such as to demonstrate conclusively the possibility of recording signals at a considerable distance by the instantaneous action of electricity.

This demonstration produced a profound effect on the mind of Vail. His inherited and acquired mechanical skill and the knowledge of construction which his apprenticeship in his father's works had given him, satisfied him that it was possible to embody this grand conception in a concrete form, which should ensure its successful employment for public communication purposes.

More than this, his education and training at the University had given him some insight into the affairs of the World and his mind intuitively formed a distinct conception of the vast scope and future importance of the invention. At the conclusion of the demonstration, Vail spoke to Professor Morse about the development of the invention. Morse said that he lacked the capital necessary for this as well as the workshop facilities. Vail then offered to work as his Partner and to provide the necessary capital and the use of a workshop in his father's Ironworks, in return for a share in the invention. Morse agreed to this arrangement. At this time, Morse's demonstration model looked, that shown in the sketch

like

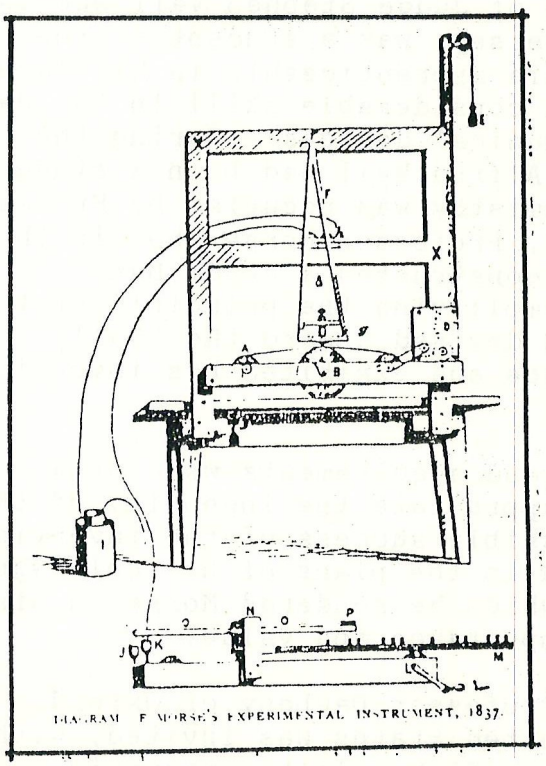


Figure 1.

It will be seen that, what Morse called the "port rule", M in the sketch, consisted of cast lead extrusions representing groups of dots which, when the handle L was rotated causing these extrusions to move laterally from left to right under the pivoted beam O-O, in turn operated the contacts J-K causing the current from the cell I to operate an electro magnet H which, in turn, actuated a lead pencil in contact with a moving paper tape pulled over the pulleys A,B,C, by a clockwork motor, D thus "printing" the group of dots. These groups representing NUMERALS - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,0,- had to be translated into the letters of the alphabet by reference to a special dictionary which Morse compiled - a laborious and enormously time consuming process. Also, Morse's knowledge of the theory of electro magnetism was woefully inadequate

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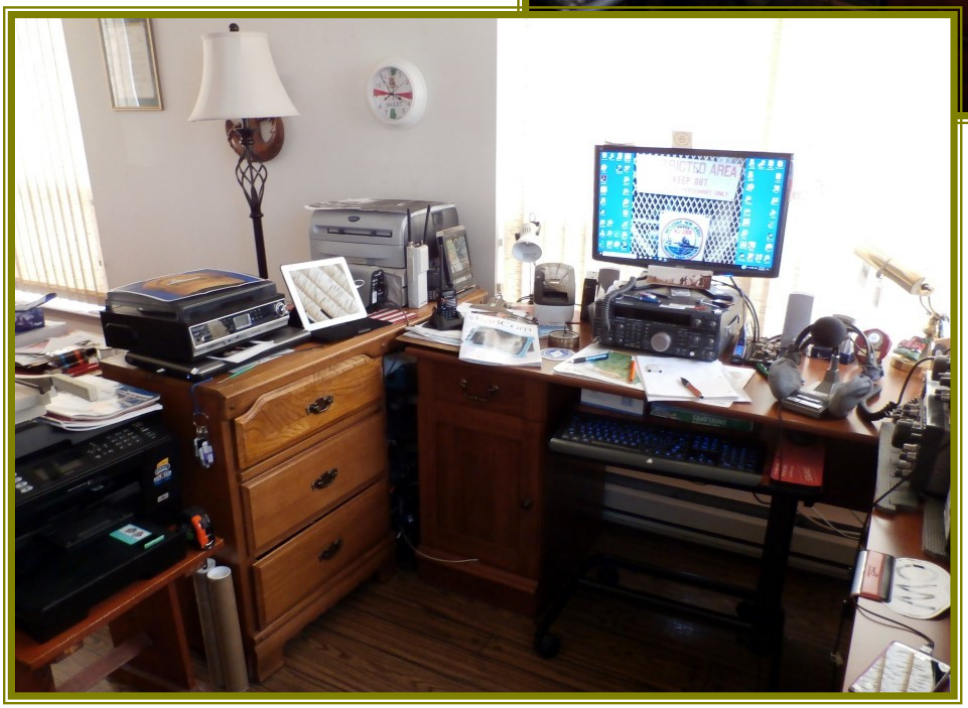
Next Month



## Series 'Our Members Radio Shacks'

## Number 3

Bob N4XAT's Shack



Top are an array of certificates etc. on the wall.
Above First part of his shack
Left Next part of his shack
Continued over page.


**Bob N4XAT's Shack**

continued.

Below Where he enjoys using CW with this key.

# Wanted QSL Manager

The Society is in need of a replacement QSL Manager. Please find below a description of what a QSL has to do.

**Job Description:**

Collect QSL cards from an event and send to QSL bureau with the Societies RSGB number.

Send to the QSL Sub Managers envelopes to enable received QSL cards to be returned to the Society. Call signs used include: G3ZMS, G1ZMS, G5RV, GB0JAJ, GB4SWM and GB0WGG.

The return address can be either your home address or via a committee members address, sort and file received QSL cards.

If the Society are going for an award keep records of cards sent and received.

Upload call log to eQSL, when set up, and download received eQSLs.

Anybody interested in taking this on can speak to either Stella Hon Chair or Alan Hon Secretary, email via chairwoman@msars.org.uk or secretary@msars.org.uk, telephone 01273 844511.

## Computer Logging. Talk by G4UDU

On Friday 9th March Phil G4UDU gave an excellent presentation on computer logging.

In the early days log keeping was a formal requirement, and your log book was open to Post Office inspection.

As well as keeping records of all your contacts, you even had to record a CQ call whether or not you made contact with another amateur station. All this had to be written in pen.

Phil went on to present a whole raft of logging methods from a simple spread sheet, which in itself allows for legible writing from a keyboard, and of course Computer Logging. A far cry from hand-written logs.

The merits of various up to date logging programmes were discussed both purchase and freeware.

Three 'Free' logging programmes were recommended by Phil. N1MM; Logger32; and Log4OM.

Phil reminded us to make sure we have the right interface leads!

A thoroughly enjoyable evening and a good turnout of members. And our brand-new projector, which I am sure you will agree, gives a far superior colour image compared to the previous one!

Tony
G3XQM

## Surplus Equipment Sale April 2018, after the smoke had cleared.

## Diary Dates April to June 2018

| | |
|---|---|
| **Fri 27 Apr** | Quiz and Cakes Night |
| **Fri 04 May** | Nag and Natter Night |
| **Fri 11 May** | **Prep for Mills on the Air** |
| **Sat 12 May** | **Mills on the Air** |
| **Sun 13 May** | **Mills on the Air** |
| **Fri 18 May** | "On Air Night" |
| **Fri 25 May** | Construction Contest |
| **Fri 01 Jun** | Nag and Natter Night |
| **Fri 08 Jun** | Open Evening for Burgess Hill Town Festival.<br>Shack opening times to Public 7.00pm to 9.00pm.<br>**Shack open for members 6.30pm to 9.45pm** |
| **Sun 10 Jun** | Burgess Hill Summer Fayre at St Johns Park.<br>Set up 9am - Open to the Public 11am - 4pm |
| **Fri 15 Jun** | **OUT** Fox Hunt |
| **Fri 22 Jun** | **OUT** Windmills Evening at Jack and Jill Car Park |
| **Fri 29 Jun** | 'On Air Night' |

## Copy

I am hoping to go to print each month. For this I need copy from any one of you however small and it **may or may not be** radio related.

If you have some great old pics that need to be aired I can share them with the rest of the club. Otherwise you can use Snail mail to my address at: 28 Damian Way, Keymer, Hassocks, West Sussex, BN6 8BJ.

 Contributions are invited from Society members and should be sent to newsletter@msars.org.uk

Request for copy around 6th—10th.

If I get no copy there will be no MSM, it is as simple as that.

73

Stella, Editor of MSM

# Amateur Radio Insurance
# General Information

## South West Broking Ltd Insurance Brokers

South West Broking Ltd is pleased to offer insurance for radio amateurs.

**Cover**

Insurance is available to individuals, clubs and Raynet Groups

Cover is provided for "All Risks" of loss or damage to your amateur radio equipment including masts, aerials and ancillary equipment by theft, water damage, lightning strike and other accidental damage.

- Cover at your home or club house.
- Anywhere in the United Kingdom.
- Anywhere in the world.



**Basis of Claims Settlement**

- New for Old

**Significant Exceptions and Limitations**

- Wear and tear, gradual deterioration, frost, faulty or defective design or materials or workmanship.
- Mechanical or electrical breakdown or derangement.
- Losses from unattended vehicles unless certain conditions are met.
- An excess of £50 applies if you have cover restricted to your premises only but this is increased to £75 if you have selected cover for anywhere in Great Britain or worldwide. In respect of outdoor antennae and masts, you will be responsible for the first £250 each and every loss.

**Third Party Personal Liability**

Personal Liability providing cover against injury to third parties or damage to their property arising from your negligence is included as standard whilst you are engaged in any amateur radio activities.

For further information, please contact Julian Dent
Telephone: 01454 806503
Email: julian@southwestbroking.co.uk
www.southwestbroking.co.uk

Scan here for more information

www.msars.org.uk

# Mid Sussex Amateur Radio Society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