



Official Newsletter of the
Worked All Britain
Awards Group

AGM Special



AGM
2020

www.worked-all-britain.org.uk

From the Editors:

Well, when Sharon volunteered “us” (I’ll get a slap for that I’m sure 😊), at the last committee meeting, to take over the Newsletter, had anyone warned we’d likely have three to get done in fairly quick succession, I seriously doubt we’d have believed them, and if we had, we’d have run away if we’d any sense!

Yet here we are, and despite restrictions at the time of writing starting to relax a little, (even if inconsistently across the four countries of the UK), Covid-19 remains very much with us and control of and reaction to this following their governments current advice and guidance, remains very much the at the core of everyone’s daily routines, and we’re sure will continue to be so for quite some time yet.

Hopefully, by the time this AGM special goes out, we may be looking forward to more controlled relaxations of the current restrictions as we move slowly and cautiously toward whatever the new “Normal” may become.

In the meantime, we, like every other company, organisation or group, are having to change the way we do things so that we can carry on whilst continuing to follow government guidance to keep ourselves, and everyone else safe.

So unfortunately, no physical AGM, and worse still..... No pre-AGM social!!

You will all hopefully have seen communications on the various social media outlets, as well as the last Newsletter, inviting nominations for committee posts, more on which later, and this is the next step.

What we set out in this special is essentially the information that would be presented at AGM, including announcements of the various awards and trophy winners for the year.

It is possible that we may find ourselves in the position to consider an alternative gathering later in the year to present awards, but for now, if you are a lucky winner, you’ll have to content yourselves with your name in print in this issue.

This doesn’t mean that our hard working awards manager is sitting at home in danger of severe crushing injuries from a collapse of the mountains of trophies that cannot be presented now, since the current restrictions also mean that our trophy supplier is also closed so we don’t actually have them yet!

Hope you all enjoy the AGM Special, and find it almost as good as coming to AGM, (if not the social!), and spare a thought for your editors, who are by now already beavering away on the next regular issue of the WAB Newsletter, (well, I am anyway 😊)... Ouch... another slap!!!

73, 88,
Paul, M1AIB and Sharon, 2E0SHZ

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WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well everybody, this is not quite what I expected to be doing, but here goes...

Thank you to everybody who would have attended this AGM. Please can we stand and take a silent minute to remember the members of the group who have passed during the past year? We especially remember Brian Morris G4KSQ and Laurie Segal G6XLL, who gave so generously of their time and effort for the benefit of others.

Last year has been a busy one for the group, despite the interference by Cov19 which made an appearance into our lives at the start of 2020. The idea of the Cabin Fever Award was to make the lockdown bearable for people and to introduce an element of humour. That seems to have worked, as it has been well supported.

Ken Porter G0FEX has stepped down as Newsletter Editor after years of loyal service. I would like to thank him very much and welcome Paul and Sharon Lewis M1AIB and 2E0SHZ into their new role. You will all have seen our great first online edition.

Every member of the WAB Committee works hard for you behind the scenes, taking their roles very seriously and aiming to serve you in the best way that they can. I would like to thank them for doing so and I ask you all to remember this too.

I would also ask you all to be patient regarding your trophies. We need to wait until we can access the necessary engraving facilities and then see if a physical meeting is possible later in the year. If not there will be a lot of posting to do!

Because of 'Social Distancing', the physical AGM and pre-AGM meal have not been possible. We hope that conditions will ease in time for the Newark Hamfest. If they do, we will do our best to arrange a social event.'

We usually have discussion on a variety of WAB topics at the end of the AGM. Please may I ask you to forward any questions that would have arisen to Paul and Sharon, so that they can be included in a 'discussion' page in the Newsletter – thereby giving everyone a voice?

I would like to wish you all the best of health for the future.

73/88

Judith G4IAQ

Minutes of 2019 AGM

**The following minutes were circulated to committee and accepted.
Proposed by Kevin Hale, G0AKH. Seconded by Dave Dolling, G0FVH**

Minutes of 2019 WAB Annual General Meeting Held on the 09/06/2019

At

Junction 28 Radio Rally

1.	The meeting opened at 1.00pm with the customary 1 Minutes silence for our Silent Key Friends
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2.	In the absence of the President & the Immediate past president Geoff G7GJU presided over the meeting gave a warm welcome to the members present and explained the reason why Judith G4IAQ (President) and John G8XTJ (immediate past President) were not at this meeting.
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3.	Members present were					
	Geoff Darby	G7GJU	NZ15	Duncan Gerrie	MM5AJN	NJ94
	Paul Lewis	M1AIB	CU50	Sharon Lewis	2E0SHZ	CU50
	Dave Dolling	G0FVH	SY99	Sue Dolling	G0FVH XYL	SY99
	Peter McKay	MM3PDM	NK14	Rob Lane	G4NQX	SK79
	Graham Cowan	G7LMF	SJ61	Kevin Hale	G0AKH	SX45
	Ken Porter	G0FEX	SK50	Zena Porter	G0FEX XYL	SK50
	Tony Beardsley	G3XKT	SK43	Graham Taylor	G4JZF	SJ90
	Peter Destoop	ON2WAB	Belgium	Dona Van Ruckeghem	ON2WAB XYL	Belgium
	Geoff Birch	G0GWY	SE90	Brian Stocks	G0BFJ	SE11
	Steve Richards	G4HPE	TL34	Bob Copeland	G4PDF	TF18
	Rob Lane	G4NQX				

4	Apologies for Absence				
	Tom Hanratty	G0JRT		Gill Hanratty	G0JRT XYL
	Esther Harper	GI0AZA		Ian Evans	GI0AZB
	John Fitzgerald	G8XTJ		Judith Brooks	G4IAR
	Dave Brooks	G4IAR		Dave Hall	G8VZT
	Paul Whitelock & XYL Di	G0GMY		Jon Hirst & XYL June	M0OVL
	Jake	G1YFF		Steve Mayer	G6TEL

5	The minutes of the 2018 AGM were considered and accepted.
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6	There were no matters arising
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7	Committee Reports:- The reports of the committee members who were not present were read out by Geoff G7GJU.
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7a	<p>Secretary:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Secretary's Report</p> <p>Quite an active year this year starting with the organising of the GB50WAB NoV which has for the record turned out to be a bit of a nightmare. Why Ofcom have to make things so difficult I do not know.</p> <p>I have a request to make but I'll leave that until Any Other Business.</p> <p>Then requests from Radio Clubs asking for information so as to be able to give a talk on WAB, this involves a lot of editing of leaflets and presentations to a more easily understood format, I , at this point thank Dave G4IAR for his tremendous amount of help.</p> <p>Other than that it comes down to the day to day running and unseen bits and pieces that crop up.</p> <p>Geoff G7GJU</p>
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7b	<p>Treasurer:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Hon. Treasurer's Report AGM 2019</p> <p>Our current balance is £2948.98, with the full balance of the PayPal account having been transferred to the current account. No foreign currencies were received during the year, thanks to the use of PayPal.</p> <p>Over the year we have received £5384.25 dividend from our investment, slightly up on last year, however the value of the investment it has decreased by £5729.36. The dividend itself is about 5% of the value of the investment and is far better than we would get if it was sitting in a bank. The investment has in fact recovered by about £2,000 since the end of financial year and whilst the return itself is reasonable, our financial advisors are not too happy with the capital side of things and will be contacting me to possibly review this.</p> <p>There are no major changes in most of the income and expenditure headings, and it's pleasing to see that most of the income headings are up. The rally bookings column includes £60 for the AGM room last year, something for which we managed a freebie the previous year. I'm pleased to say that there is no charge this year either, although we have dug deep to provide you with refreshments! Having absorbed postal charge increases for some years, it was felt necessary to increase our charges by 50p all round during the year.</p> <p>Other than donations, the biggest increase in expenditure this year is on stationary. This is a reflection of the increase in awards sent out and the additional printed material with the books, ink for the CD labels etc.. For the awards, I am looking at the new range of Epson printers that now take a tank of ink, rather than a small cartridge. These are not the continuous ink system that I had in the past, that caused a bit of upset in this</p>
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household when one of the ink pipes became detached, but self-contained tanks within the printer. Given the amount of ink the Awards Manager gets through, the savings could be considerable.

Our donations this year went to Methodist Homes for the Aged (Accountants choice), WaterAid, The Stroke Association, Diabetes UK, RAIBC, and Hearing Dogs for the Deaf, the sum being £500 each.

As usual, I close by saying it is only thanks to the legacy from Norman, G1NTW, that we can keep down cost of the scheme to members. Were it not for this, with our current costs, you would be looking at either some far cheaper trophies on these tables, or be paying a realistic price for them!

73, Dave, G4IAR

THE WAB AWARDS GROUP - RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT ACCOUNTS, YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2019

	2018/19	2017/18		2018/19	2017/18
INCOME - £			EXPENDITURE - £		
QSL Cards & Stickers	56.00	23.50	Postage	625.17	599.71
Book Sales	1,639.00	1,270.15	Rally Bookings	294.90	157.00
Awards	1,030.38	865.88	Fees (RSGB Web Hosting etc)	137.00	212.00
Newsletters	438.00	370.16	CD Rom Expenses	138.77	37.49
Miscellaneous	285.00	98.50	Stationery	1,507.45	1,002.78
Dividend	5,384.25	5,271.14	Certificates & Trophies	1,079.98	922.43
Log Books	120.00	250.38	Newsletters	275.26	220.22
			Rally Expenses	488.30	265.00
			Merchandise	354.00	716.26
			Donations	3,000.00	1,500.00
			Committee Expenses	873.00	901.39
			Equipment	123.93	-
			Printing	344.98	367.75
			Investment Capital Loss	5,729.36	6,688.02
	<u>8,952.63</u>	<u>8,149.71</u>		<u>14,972.10</u>	<u>13,590.05</u>

Income V Expenditure - 6,019.47 5,440.34

REPRESENTED BY

Balance @ 31/03/18	113,966.64	119,406.98
Add Excess of Expenditure	- 6,019.47	- 5,440.34
Balance @ 31/03/19	<u>107,947.17</u>	<u>113,966.64</u>

Note: Current Balances are:

Floats	516.26	544.41
Lloyds Current	2,948.98	3,210.94
F&C Investment	104,481.93	110,211.29
	<u>107,947.17</u>	<u>113,966.64</u>

I have reviewed these accounts and confirm they agree to the underlying records

Andrew Thorpe

13/5/19

7c	<p>Membership Sec:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Membership Secretary's report for the 2019 AGM</p> <p>Firstly please accept my apologies for not being at this years AGM.</p> <p>Since last year's AGM we have sold 143 Book Packages and 210 Book Numbers. There are 108 New Members that have joined this past year.</p> <p>That is an average of 6.7 book numbers used per week which is a little down from last years 8.3 weekly average although new members have increased from last year.</p> <p>The book update mailing list now stands at 488 users.</p> <p>Best Regards Steve G6TEL.</p>
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7d	<p>Awards Manager:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Awards Manager's Report AGM 2019</p> <p>I really did not expect to be saying this, but since last year's AGM,1953awards have been issued, compared to 1173in the previous year. This, at the bottom of the sunspot cycle is a record for the number of awards issued in the year between AGMs, beating the previous record, which was at the peak of the previous cycle, by 280 awards.</p> <p>My thanks to those who have supported the Going for Gold and the 50th Anniversary Awards who have made this possible. These awards have also had the effect of elevating the numbers of claims in our on-going awards. Travelling back in time to the equivalent stage of the previous solar cycle, we see that just 204 awards were issued.</p> <p>The totals on the awards issued sheet include all stages of the award, not just the basic certificate, otherwise the table would be very cumbersome.</p> <p>We will need to put our thinking caps on for next year. We should keep this momentum going and not let 2020 be the year "after the Lord Mayor's Show"!</p> <p>As usual, we would express our thanks to all the mobiles, portables and net controllers.</p> <p>Dave Brooks, G4IAR WAB Awards Manager.</p>
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7e	<p>Newsletter Editor:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">From GOFEX Newsletter Editor</p> <p>Not a great deal to report, I am looking forward to the AGM weekend.</p> <p>I have not to date had any response to the crossword that was in our last newsletter, this I am not surprised about, but there is still until the end of the month,</p> <p>I have had a couple of verbal complaints on the radio asking why people give out a 2 by 2 report, if you check the RST system, it clearly states that a 2 by 2 is <u>Barely readable, occasional words distinguishable, very weak signals.</u></p> <p>I did mention this in a previous newsletter.</p> <p>So far I have not heard from anyone that is willing to take over as Editor of our newsletter, but there is still a bit of time until the end of this year.</p> <p>As most of you know, I have GB2WAB for the month of June, I plan to be quite active on 40 metres with this call plus other bands.</p> <p>With regards to the WAB Forum, I still use this, I do not do social media in any form, just my opinion.</p> <p>Looking forward to seeing some of at the stand, Sunday morning..</p> <p>GOFEX Ken</p> <p>Graham G7LMF proposed a vote of thanks to Ken for the Newsletter work he has done.</p>
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7f	<p>Publicity Officer:- No report received</p>
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7g	<p>Internet Co-ordinator:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Internet Co-ordinator's Report – 09/06/18</u></p> <p>This year's report will be very similar to last year's.</p> <p>I receive weekly Book and Award Claims updates from the Membership Secretary and Awards Manager, which I transfer onto the web site, as well as the Contest Results from the Contest Manager so everyone can see how well they did compared to other entrants and previous contests.</p> <p>Award Claims have varied in number from none in a week (it doesn't happen very often!) to well over 100 after a timed award period has ended.</p> <p>I continue to add pieces of important information to the front page and the scrolling banner at the top of the front page, including notifications of the donations we have been able to make each year.</p> <p>I could do with feedback on whether the forum on the website is worth keeping. It gets very little activity, as most of the general chat and questions now seem to go via the Facebook group. Do you want it to continue? Please let me know.</p> <p>Thanks are due once again to Intermip, who provide our web hosting.</p> <p>Kevin Hale GOAKH</p>
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7h

Contest Manager:- CONTEST MANAGERS REPORT JUNE 2019

The number of contest entries was well up on last year but last year was a particularly poor year.

Comparative entries are as follows :-

	2018/2019	2017/2018
50 MHz Phone	7	7
144 MHz Low Power	6	5
144 MHz QRO	5	4
DX	9	3 (HF Contest)
1.8 MHz Phone	10	11
3.5 MHz Phone	22	14
1.8/3.5/7 MHz Data	6	8
7 MHz Phone	11	9
Total Entries	76	61

The contest rules have been changed slightly to standardise the methods of entry. You may still use the existing sheets but computerised entries using the programs listed in the rules are preferred.

Our experimental addition of a CW category in the LF contests resulted in only one entry. This will not be continued but we are considering allowing CW contacts in all the categories.

Due to the low support for our Data Contests this year, I think that we will have to change the format for this.

It was good that we were able to award the G3ABG trophy for mobile contests this year as we had mobile stations entering more than one contest.

Our contests continue to be publicised in the "Contesting" column of RadCom and on the RSGB news programme.

Tony Beardsley, G3XKT, Contest Manager.

Brian G0BFJ made comment about contest dates to the effect that they should not clash with what could be termed as family dates i.e. Mothers day or Fathers day ect.

He went on to mention that rather than 3 separate DATA Modes contests put them all together as 1.

He then suggested Less contests as we were not a contest group.

Tony G3XKT said he would look into all suggestions.

7i	<p>Rally Manager:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rally Managers Report</p> <p>The usual rally's have been attended throughout the year but unfortunately it is the usual tale of the internet taking over physical Rally sale's.</p> <p>I have found that there is a lot of interest at the rally but membership has already been purchased via the Web.</p> <p>The interest that I experience is from those who have become members via the internet but now want to know how it works.</p> <p>Geoff G7GJU</p>
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7j	<p>QSL Manager:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">QSL MANAGERS REPORT</p> <p>Hi All</p> <p>Not a lot to report this time, Only 2 envelopes from the Bureau sorted sent to Bureau but nothing for GB50WAB as yet time will tell.</p> <p>See you all at the AGM.</p> <p>73s Geoff G0GWY</p>
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8.	There followed the Presentation of Trophies, and a very nice display was to be seen.
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9.	Graham G4JZF made an impromptu Presentation of a trophy to John G4YSS in recognition and thanks for his work on the OV00 activations.
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10	<p>Committee elections:-</p> <p>The present committee all indicated they were willing to stay with the committee this was unanimously accepted by those present.</p> <p>Graham G4JZF proposed a vote of thanks to the committee for the work done.</p>
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10a	<p>President:-</p> <p>Geoff G7GJU proposed Judith Brooks G4IAQ to serve for a second term of office This was seconded by Tom Hanratty G0JRT. Unanimously accepted</p>
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10b	<p>Peter Destoop ON2WAB was proposed by Geoff G7GJU to be Overseas representative Seconded by Tom Hanratty G0JRT Unanimously accepted</p>
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10c	<p>Ian Evans GI0AZB was proposed by Geoff G7GJU to be Joint Northern Ireland Representative</p> <p>Seconded by Esther Harper GI0AZA Unanimously accepted</p>
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10d	<p>Esther Harper GI0AZA was proposed by Geoff G7GJU to be Joint Northern Ireland Representative with the above</p> <p>Seconded by Ian Evans GI0AZB</p> <p>Unanimously accepted</p>
11	<p>There should have at this point been a presentation to the previous year's president but as she was unavailable this was put in abeyance.</p>
12	<p>Geoff G7GJU welcomed our new committee members and a vote of thanks was given to Paul M1AIB and Sharon 2E0SHZ for their role as Northern Ireland representatives A post they have relinquished since moving back to this country, they will however still be members of the committee.</p>
13	<p>GB50WAB:- Geoff G7GJU explained the nightmare this NoV had been to co-ordinate owing to the total lack of understanding by Ofcom, he also stated that he still had 3 2 week slots to fill Paul M0AIB said he would take one of them and Bob Copeland G4PDF offered to take another this now just leaves 1 slot to fill.</p>
14	<p>Alternative to 3.760.</p> <p>There has been some disgruntlement with regards to QRM on 3.760 which affects the mobiles mostly and the question was asked could we not allocate a different frequency.</p> <p>Geoff G7GJU after consultation with others stated that in their mind it was not necessary to change the frequency as the rules state that this is the preferred frequency + or – QRM and that to change the frequency would adversely affect the mobiles who had their antenna tuned for this frequency.</p> <p>Steve G4HPE suggested that we use a secondary Frequency alongside 3.760 so that people would know that if 3.760 was unworkable the mobiles could be found elsewhere.</p> <p>This is to be taken back to committee for further discussion.</p>
15	<p>NATS award:-</p> <p>It had been suggested that owing to what appears to be a lack of interest with this award (only 4 Claims this Year) the licence need not be renewed and the award to be taken of the list of possible.</p> <p>This was turned back to the committee for further discussion.</p>
AOB	<p>Duncan Gerrie MM3PDM asked why the "Going for Gold Activators Award" had not been presented. We could not answer this question as the Awards Manager was not present and that it would be taken back to Committee.</p> <p>It has since been revealed that this was an oversight and the matter would be remedied ASAP.</p>
	<p>There being no further business the meeting closed at 2.30pm</p>

Committee Reports - Secretary

Secretary's Report for 2020 AGM

It's been a funny old year with the beginning of 2020 being very uncertain, however we are still here vertical and above ground as they say.

A number of letters have gone backwards and forwards to Ofcom at the back end of 2019 with regards to the GB50WAB callsign, which I have to add that this time it was an absolute nightmare (come back the old staff all is forgiven) anyway we got that nicely put to bed and I think everyone enjoyed it.

One or two bits of correspondence at the beginning of the year just basically asking for certain point for clarification but nothing major.

I have had 2 letters from members regarding on air protocol these will be discussed at the AGM and then a reply will be sent to the members concerned.

I have had a very time consuming job of retrieving details from past minutes, quite enlightening I have to admit but the Info was found and you will read the results in the Newsletter.

I think that about covers everything

Geoff G7GJU

Committee Reports – Hon. Treasurer

As of 31st March 2020, our current balance is £2226.95, with the full balance of the PayPal account having been transferred to the current account.

There are no major changes in most of the income and expenditure headings, although some of the income headings are down, this is reflected in a lot of the expenditure headings. This is in part due to the effects of the corona virus taken effect, with rallies being cancelled and therefore not having to pay booking fees. The main effect of this virus, I shall come to next.

Over the year we have received £4812.66 dividend from our investment, slightly down on last year, unfortunately the value of the investment itself has decreased by over £22,000 due to the effect of the virus on the stock markets. However, the dividend itself is about 4.6% of the value of the investment as of the start of the financial year and is far better than the next to nothing the banks are offering at the moment. The investment has in fact recovered by about £5,500 since the end of year balance sheet was produced and I sincerely trust that once the current situation is over, the value will rise considerably.

Our donations this year went to Methodist Homes for the Aged (Accountants choice), RAIBC, Cancer Research UK, Vasculitis UK, Fybromyalgia UK and Arthritis Action, the sum being £500 each, totalling £3000. We may not be able to repeat this next year, for the reasons previously stated.

As usual, I close by saying it is only thanks to the legacy from Norman, G1NTW, that we can keep down cost of the scheme to members.

73, Dave, G4IAR

	2019/20	2018/19			2019/20	2018/19
INCOME - £				EXPENDITURE - £		
QSL Cards	18.00	56.00		Postage	691.94	625.17
Book Sales	1,187.30	1,639.00		Rally Bookings	131.00	294.90
Awards	889.50	1,030.38		Fees (RSGB Web Hosting etc)	137.00	137.00
Newsletters	431.70	438.00		CD Rom Expenses	-	138.77
Miscellaneous	120.50	285.00		Stationery	920.89	1,507.45
Dividend	4,812.66	5,384.25		Certificates & Trophies	2,112.29	1,079.98
Log Books	204.29	120.00		Newsletters	141.20	275.26
				Rally Expenses	-	488.30
				Merchandise	-	354.00
				Donations	3,000.00	3,000.00
				Log Books	304.46	-
				Committee Expenses	927.17	873.00
				Equipment	-	123.93
				Printing	-	344.98
				Investment Capital Loss	22,229.73	5,729.36
	7,663.95	8,952.63			30,595.68	14,972.10
Income V Expenditure						
	- 22,931.73	- 6,019.47				
REPRESENTED BY						
Balance @ 31/03/18	107,947.17	113,966.64				
Add Excess of Expenditure	- 22,931.73	- 6,019.47				
Balance @ 31/03/19	85,015.44	107,947.17				
Note: Current Balances are:						
Floats	536.29	516.26				
Lloyds Current	2,226.95	2,948.98				
F&C Investment	82,252.20	104,481.93				
	85,015.44	107,947.17				

Committee Reports – Membership Secretary

Since last year's AGM we have sold 112 Book Packages and 245 Book Numbers.

There are 82 New Members who have joined this past year, a little down on last year.

That is an average of 6.8 book numbers per week which is around the

Same as the previous 12 months!

The book update mailing list now stands at 471 users.

Best Regards

David G0FVH/ Steve G6TEL

Committee Reports – Awards Manager

It has been quite a past few months for all of us and quite a past 12 months for WAB.

Since last year's AGM, 2210 awards have been issued, compared to 1953 in the previous year. I said last year that the year's total was a record breaker, despite being at the bottom of the sunspot cycle, but we have done it again! This was vastly helped by those who supported the 50th Anniversary Awards, which totaled nearly 1000 on their own and I thank you for your support, especially the mobiles who made this possible. Hopefully, we will be back on the road again soon.

As you know the 2020 Award has been put on hold, I sincerely hope that we can get this going again, and I thank those who have supported the interim Cabin Fever Award.

The totals on the awards issued sheet include all stages of the award, not just the basic certificate, otherwise the table would be very cumbersome.

As usual, we would express our thanks to all the mobiles, portables and net controllers.

Dave Brooks, G4IAR
WAB Awards Manager.

[Dave's summary of awards issued appears over the page, the awards for this year later in the "Presentation" Section.](#)

Award	2019/20	2018/19
2020 Awards	144	
50th Anniversary Awards	992	290
Annual Activity	19	18
Book Numbers	188	147
Cabin Fever	101	
Channel Islands	3	7
Christmas Party	13	16
Coastal & Tidal 2015	86	99
Cornish		1
Decade	41	47
DX	5	11
Going for Gold		525
Islands	22	27
Isle of Man	15	12
Large Squares	17	29
Members Award	43	49
NATS	7	4
Overseas Book-holders	15	3
Special Event Stations	24	9
Squares Award	31	61
Trig Awards	62	92
VHF Challenge	46	83
WABEMA Squares	23	16
WAGI	20	25
Winter Award	293	335
Grand Totals	2210	1953

Committee Reports – Newsletter Editor(s)

Sadly, this report comes while still in Lockdown, not how we normally enjoy our AGM and we were really looking forward to our get together again this year. Last year of course, we had a great time celebrating our 50th Year, not only at a new venue for our meal but also a different venue for our AGM.

As we slowly come out of this situation, I am sure that we will start to get back to our 'normal' lives, whatever that may have been. I am hoping that we will at least have some sort of get together later in the year.

Paul worked hard on the First Lewis edition of the newsletter, unfortunately I had little input as we have been living separate lives due to him being at Gatwick and myself being at our boat. Hopefully, this will soon end.

We look forward to a better second half of the year to the first and we look forward to receiving articles for the newsletter from our WAB members.

Take care and stay safe.

73/88, Sharon 2E0SHZ, Paul M1AIB

Committee Reports – Publicity Officer

The nets, website and newsletter have continued to act as WAB's publicity.

Practical Wireless and Radio Communications magazine have both publicised the Cabin Fever award, which has offered companionship and light relief during the lockdown.

WAB has not had the opportunity to be present at the rallies this year, but Amateur Radio generally has seen an upsurge in activity and prospective operators, and we get a lot of email queries at this QTH. Occasionally, people phone, but this is not as frequent as it used to be.

It has not been possible to advertise upcoming mobile and portable activity and I know that many have been disappointed that their plans have been thwarted. We must remember that the health of the nation comes first, and we all hope that more expeditions will be possible later this year, or in the coming year.

I am not sure what else to say at this stage. I can certainly send a report on the various achievements of individual WAB members during the year to the national publications, together with the rundown of the charitable payments and trophies available.

In whatever way you have spent lockdown, I hope that it has been beneficial to your health and your family life.

73/88, Judith, G4IAQ

Committee Reports – Internet Coordinator

I will try not to use the word 'unprecedented' in my report, as I'm sure you've heard it enough over the last few months!

Up until recently things have been fairly 'business as usual' as far as the web site is concerned, but obviously with the temporary suspension in mobile and portable activity counting for awards, things have eased back a little on the award updates front. With the Cabin Fever Award attempting to fill the gap, that may increase again, and I'm sure when things get back to normal – whatever that may look like – people will be itching to get back out and activate.

I continue to add pieces of important information to the front page and the scrolling banner at the top of the front page, including notifications of the donations we have been able to make each year.

Thanks are due once again to Intermip, who provide our web hosting.

Update: The day after I drafted my report, the web site suffered a denial of service attack originating from Singapore. The effect of this was to take us over our monthly bandwidth limit and stop anyone being able to access the site. Thanks to Steve Richards G4HPE for informing me that the site was unavailable, I then manage to track down the problem and back the addresses being used, along with some other measures. Hopefully the site went back on line without too much disruption.

Kevin Hale G0AKH

Committee Reports – Contest Manager

A rather disappointing year for the WAB contests with most of the contests showing a smaller number of entries than last year. To put it into context I have included the numbers for 2017-2018 which were similar to this year. The 80 and 40 metre contests this year were affected by the lack of mobile and portable stations due to the Pandemic. We hope that things will be back to normal in time for the 2 metre contests.

Comparative entries are as follows :-

	2019/2020	2018/2019	2017/2018
50 MHz Phone	7	7	7
144 MHz Low Power	5	6	5
144 MHz QRO	6	5	4
DX	4	9	3(HF Contest)
1.8 MHz Phone	6	10	11
3.5 MHz Phone	16	22	14
1.8/3.5/7 MHz Data	3	6	8
7 MHz Phone	8	11	6
Total Entries	55	76	58

Good to see that some stations are using our WabCon program. The new version of it allows for retrospective entry of your log. At the moment it doesn't do the scoring but hopefully version 3 will do this. Look in the rules for alternative methods of entry.

We are now allowing CW contests to be mixed in with SSB in all the non-data contests and the data contest has been changed to allow all modes in a single category.

Our contests continue to be publicised in the "Contesting" column of RadCom and on the RSGB news program.

Tony Beardsley, G3XKT, Contest Manager.

Committee Reports – Rally Manager

This one is dead easy, there haven't been any in 2020!

However, the latter part of 2019 saw a couple and unfortunately the story is the same no-matter where, not a lot of activity it has been a case of we are just flying the flag.

Nothing much else to say apart from see you all when Boris decides to take the locks off.

Cheers for now
Geoff G7GJU

Committee Reports – QSL Manager

Again, a very simple one this year. I have had two lots of QSL cards, one from Geoff and one from Kevin G4wab and G7wab, About 50 cards all together all sorted still nothing for GB50WAB very slow.

73s Geoff G0GWY

Committee Reports – Northern Ireland

Hello to all, hope you are all managing in this most strange of situations.

Esther GI0AZA and I continue to be proactive with all things WAB, on the air and also in person. We actually have had a very busy year within GI land, including the true extension of WAB, helping others, with an answer to a distress call while on the WAB net towards the end of the summer of 2019.

In the region there has been some excellent renewed interest in amateur radio with the result of a new club in the area around H87 & H88.

Over this last year we have attended various rallies from the far west of GI, the H squares, to the Far East, the J squares and met and chatted to lots of the active members and also new participants to WAB.

The local clubs and members are all very receptive of WAB, certainly there are a few new operators that chase and join the nets from time to time, both on HF and also V/UHF.

We are of course open to ideas from the membership as to what would be useful for this area of WAB in GI land as we move through 2020 and hopefully a return to some normal activity when restrictions are cleared and the current pandemic of CV19 hopefully is vastly reduced.

The next Newsletter edition will have more from the region, so if you have any contributions do let us know.

Many thanks,

Ian GI0AZB, Esther GI0AZA.

Committee Elections

Clearly with the lack of a physical AGM, we've had to adapt somewhat! Therefore, in preparation for what we knew would be a "Virtual" AGM, requests for proposals or nominations were issued in the last newsletter and via Social Media and other Online outlets.

Ken Porter, G0FEX, had stated at the last AGM that he would not be continuing with the Newsletter following the last issue for the year due at the end of October. As there had been no volunteer subsequently up until the last full committee meeting held in March, Sharon 2E0SHZ, and Paul, M1AIB, jointly volunteered to give it a go. [Hopefully, no complaints so far 😊](#)

Our current President, Judith Brooks, G4IAQ, stated at the last full committee meeting that she would be stepping down at AGM after two years in post.

The committee were also aware that Steve Mayer, G6TEL, was also looking to step back from committee and the post of Membership Secretary. Subsequent to that meeting, David Dolling, G0FVH, having offered assistance was duly coopted onto committee to take over from Steve, the more observant will already have noticed changes with the weekly updates coming from Dave rather than Steve.

Those proposals that have been received were as follows.

Proposal Standing committee minus Steve, G6TEL, re-elected – [Proposal Unopposed](#)
Proposed by : - Tom Hanratty, G0JRT
Seconded By : - Nigel Green, M0NGN

Proposal David Dolling, G0FVH, Formally Membership Sec. – [Proposal Unopposed.](#)
Proposed by : - Tom Hanratty, G0JRT
Seconded by Nigel Green, M0NGN

Proposal Geoff Darby, G7GJU, Takes over as President - 2020/21 – [Proposal Unopposed](#)
Proposed Dave Brooks, G4IAR
Seconded Judith Brooks, G4IAQ

The committee formally welcome Dave Dolling to the post of Membership Secretary, thank you for taking up the reins in such a key role, and our sincere thanks also to Steve for his service and hard work in the position over the past few years.

We thank also Geoff for taking on the Presidency, (again??), and to Judith for her unstinting and always cheerful support and guidance during her tenure as President

"VIRTUAL" Presentation of Award Trophies 2020

Well, had we been at the AGM "Proper", I think we would have been looking yet again at an imposing array of trophies to be handed out.

We are uncertain regarding the trophy presentation this year. The trophy shop is closed at the moment and of course we are currently unable to hold a physical AGM, but we are hoping maybe later this year to make a presentation.

If it becomes clear that we can't, I will move as soon as the trophy shop opens and will get everything posted.

In the meantime, the committee wish to thank the following for their contributions to WAB activity and congratulate them on achieving the following Awards.

Annual Activity

Karl Kruger	2E0FEH	1851	Squares HF/Mixed
Geoff Birch	G0GWY	1404	Squares HF/Mixed
Nigel Ferguson	G0BPK	1068	Squares HF/Mixed
Bob Copeland	G4PDF	285	Squares VHF
Steve Mayer	G6TEL	422	Squares Data Modes
Peter McKay	MM3PDM	721	HF/Mixed Activated
Duncan Gerrie	MM5AJN	384	Squares HF/Mixed Activated
Keith Plumridge	G4BYY	360	Squares HF/Mixed Activated

Diamond Squares First Honour Roll

Tony Beardsley **G3XKT** 40m SSB (2500 Squares Worked)

Coastal & Tidal 2015 Diamond

Steve Mayer	SWL	FT8 Heard
Andy Sutton	GM6ZAK	Mixed Bands/Modes
Peter McKay	MM3PDM	Mixed Bands SSB Activated
Peter McKay	MM3PDM	40m SSB Activated
Peter McKay	MM3PDN	80m SSB Activated
John Gilbert	G0OFD	80m SSB
Bob Saunders	M0MJA	Mixed Bands SSB Activated
Graham Cowan	G7LMF	Mixed Bands/Modes
Bob Copeland	G4PDF	VHF Mixed Modes

"VIRTUAL" Presentation of Award Trophies 2020

Coastal & Tidal 2015 Trophy 2

Steve Mayer	SWL	FT8 Heard
Peter McKay	MM3PDM	Mixed Bands SSB Activated
Peter McKay	MM3PDM	40m SSB Activated
Peter McKay	MM3PDM	80m SSB Activated
Peter McKay	MM5AJN	80m SSB Activated
Steve Mayer	G6TEL	Mixed Bands FT8
Bob Copeland	G4PDF	Mixed Bands Data Modes

Coastal & Tidal 2015 Trophy 3

Geoff Birch	G0GWY	40m SSB
David Dolling	G0FVH	40m SSB
Peter McKay	MM3PDM	Mixed Bands SSB Activated
Peter McKay	MM3PDM	40m SSB Activated
Karl Kruger	2E0FEH	Mixed Bands SSB

Coastal & Tidal 2015 Trophy 4

Peter McKay	MM3PDM	Mixed Bands SSB Activated
Peter McKay	MM3PDM	40m SSB Activated
Duncan Gerrie	MM5AJN	40m SSB Activated

VHF Challenge 2019

Steve Mayer	SWL	6m FT8 Heard
Tony Beardsley	G3XKT	6m/2m/70cm SSB
Brian Stocks	G0BFJ	2m Phone
Bob Copeland	G4PDF	VHF Mixed Modes

"VIRTUAL" Presentation of Award Trophies 2020

50th Anniversary UK HF 50 Points

Karl Kruger	2E0FEH	Mixed Bands SSB
Karl Kruger	2E0FEH	40m SSB
Karl Kruger	2E0FEH	80m SSB
John Hornsby	G0AJH	Mixed Bands SSB
Brian Stocks	G0BJF	Mixed Bands SSB
Brian Stocks	G0BFJ	80m SSB
Nigel Ferguson	G0BPK	Mixed Bands SSB
Nigel Ferguson	G0BPK	80m SSB
David Dolling	G0FVH	HF Bands Mixed Modes
Geoff Birch	G0GWY	80m SSB
John Gilbert	G0OFD	Mixed Bands SSB
John Gilbert	G0OFD	80m SSB
Jake Bevan	G1YFF	Mixed Bands SSB
Pontefract DARS	G3FYQ	Mixed Bands SSB
Tony Beardsley	G3XKT	HF Bands SSB
Tony Beardsley	G3XKT	80m SSB
Keith Plumridge	G4BYY	Mixed Bands SSB
Keith Plumridge	G4BYY	80m SSB
Steve Richards	G4HPE	Mixed Bands SSB
Steve Richards	G4HPE	80m SSB
Bob Copeland	G4PDF	HF Bands Mixed Modes
Graham Cowan	G7LMF	Mixed Bands Phone Mode
Esther Harper	G10AZA	Mixed Bands SSB
Andy Sutton	GM6ZAK	Mixed Bands/Modes
Andy Sutton	GM6ZAK	80m Band Mixed Modes
Andy Sutton	GM6ZAK	40m Band Mixed Modes

"VIRTUAL" Presentation of Award Trophies 2020

50th Anniversary UK HF 50 Points Activated

Duncan Gerrie	MM5AJN	Mixed Bands SSB
Peter McKay	MM3PDM	Mixed Bands SSB
Peter McKay	MM3PDM	80m SSB
Peter McKay	MM3PDM	40m SSB
Keith Plumridge	G4BYY	Mixed Bands SSB
Keith Plumridge	G4BYY	80m SSB
Keith Plumridge	G4BYY 4	0m SSB

50th Anniversary UK HF 100 Points

Karl Kruger	2E0FEH	Mixed Bands SSB
Karl Kruger	2E0FEH	80m SSB

50th Anniversary UK VHF 50 Points

Bob Copeland	G4PDF	VHF Mixed Modes
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50th Anniversary Data Modes 50 Points

Steve Mayer	SWL	Mixed Bands FT8 Heard
Bob Copeland	G4PDF	Mixed Bands Data Modes

50th Anniversary EU HF 50 Points

Jukka Kovanen	OH3GZ	Mixed Bands/Modes
Peter Destoop	ONL 5923	Mixed Bands/Modes Heard
Ben Richter	DL7UCW	Mixed Bands/Modes
Jukka Tamminen	OH3OJ	Mixed Bands/Modes

50th Anniversary EU HF 100 Points

Ben Richter	DL7UCW	Mixed Bands/Modes
Jukka Kovanen	OH3GZ	Mixed Bands/Modes

Committee Awarded Trophies / Certificates

Annually, the committee award trophies and certificates for contributions to WAB "above and beyond the call of duty". These are usually kept under wraps and are presented as a surprise at the AGM.

As you can appreciate it has not been possible to do that this year, so here is the list, with a brief explanation of what they are awarded for.

The trophies are retained by committee, but a keepsake trophy or certificate in lieu will be sent out when possible.

Bound Skerries

For notable portable / mobile activity

Peter McKay, MM3PDM

Frank Parkhurst Memorial Trophy

For net control

Jointly: **Keith Plumridge, G4BYY / Geoff Birch, G0GWY**

Founder's Trophy

For contributions other than on the air activity

For the work in arranging the GB50WAB call - **Geoff Darby, G7GJU**

Certificates of Merit

For other contributions to the group especially including this year consistently activating the group callsigns for the benefit of others

Phil Moses, G7AFM

David Dolling, G0FVH

Jake Bevan, G1YFF

Juliete Bevan, G7RVS

Andy Swiffin, GM8OEG

Steve Richards, G4HPE

Duncan Gerrie, MM5AJN

Steve Mayer, G6TEL

Any Other Business

Response to Correspondence Received

In recent weeks WAB has received correspondence complaining of comments that have been made in various public forums, including the last Newsletter, which are apparently openly critical of net "netiquette" and of net controllers in particular, and could also be seen as being promulgated or at least supported in part by the WAB committee.

First and foremost, we wish to state for the record that the WAB committee have always been, and continue to be, grateful and hugely indebted to those few, (unfortunately), whom voluntarily, (like all committee members), continually and consistently give their time and support to the interests of WAB by "chairing" the nets as net controllers. It can be a thankless task in good conditions at times, never mind under current poor and constantly changeable conditions.

The small piece placed in the Newsletter was absolutely not intended as a criticism, or aimed at any specific net controller, or indeed net controllers per se, it was intended as a simple reminder to leave reasonable pauses when asking for check-ins, prompted by personal experience of the editor, and multiple comments expressing disappointment that had, (and continue to on occasions), appeared in the Messenger chat group, and the committee stand by that statement, we are sorry if this was seen as criticism, it was not intended as such.

We would remind members that comments made by committee members on whatever media outlet, though without doubt always made with the very best of intentions, do not necessarily constitute the opinion of the WAB committee, but we do understand how that can be seen as such, and as a committee we should maybe at times take a bit more time to think before we type, but we would add that we are all only human, we are all volunteers, and we are above all much like the hobby of Amateur Radio, a VERY diverse group of individuals with a similarly diverse range of personalities and temperaments and we don't always get it right.

On the specific matter of claims of being ignored due to being mobile, this was from a comment made within an internal committee email, in jest, which was unfortunately, again with very best intention, (though possibly misguided in this instance), repeated on one of the forums. That comment although made in jest, was however based on facts as perceived by the mobile, who clearly heard comments leaving no doubt that they were being ignored because they were mobile. We cannot stress enough, that the person concerned **was not a net controller** and the individual concerned had never intended the comments made to be aired publicly as a complaint, we accept however that this could perhaps have been made clearer within the committee communications at the time.

Finally, please be assured that your committee does take it's responsibility to WAB very seriously indeed and is always disappointed to receive such correspondence, however, in this instance we accept we could possibly have done better. That said, there is absolutely no doubt whatsoever that level of negative comments regarding net discipline, (NOT Net control specifically), has been on the increase in recent months. This has been most noticeable on the FB and Messenger feeds in particular.

Any Other Business – Cont.

Response to Correspondence Received

The reasons for this increase may be many and varied, not least of which of course would be the largely exceptionally poor conditions, lack of experience, lack of practice and indeed under the current restrictions generally an element of actual "Cabin Fever".

In light of this, the next routine Newsletter will include some reminders of operating practice or "Netiquette" generally expected of WAB. – PLEASE, do not take this series personally, it is not intended as a criticism of any one individual OR net controller, it is intended purely as a gentle and timely reminder to all folk, to do their best to follow best practice and the published guidance that is available for all to read on the Web Site.

Written on Behalf of the Committee.

Paul, M1AIB.
Newsletter Editor.

Newsletter Extensions to Subscriptions

In light of the current continuing situation with Covid-19, it has been decided that Newsletter subscriptions shall be extended for a minimum of Two issues.

Since we have been unable to have the Newsletter Printed, those who would normally have been receiving a "proper" copy, (for which they pay an increased subscription charge), have had to make do with an electronic version only.

Therefore, since the electronic version is essentially free to distribute, the Newsletter editor has sought and received approval from the committee to extend subscriptions by at least two issues such that those having paid for "Postal" subscriptions will still ultimately receive the number of printed issues for which they've subscribed.

On the same basis, again since the distribution has no cost, it was suggested and agreed this be extended across the board to all subscribers.

You need make no change to any automated subscription update unless you really wish to, it simply means those who's subscription automatically renew shall be two issues ahead.

Any Other Business – Cont.

New Series 7 Book Package

WAB is pleased to announce that its book package is being updated to now include a 2GB WAB Branded USB Memory Stick rather than two CDs.

In addition to this change in format of electronic book package content in common with significant changes to the book package in the past, a new, 7th series, of books will be introduced to mark this change.

This series will commence at book 24000. (Any book numbers reserved up to this number will be honoured as a 6th series number)

Due to the present Covid-19 situation, any orders for book packages will be sent out when we have both the flash drives and printed books to hand, in the meantime, the membership secretary will contact you via email with the new book number. This may take a little while and we ask that you bear with us regarding this. (We are making temporary alternate arrangements for book printing, but numbers are likely to be very limited).

The contents of the printed book will not be significantly different to the 6th series book.

Existing members can obtain a 7th series book number only at the usual cost from the Membership Secretary, from whom the 7th series flash drive can also be purchased.

The flash drives will also be available, (eventually!!), for purchase at rallies for £3

If anyone requires assistance with updating their book number trackers to include the 7th series, please contact Graham Taylor, G4JZF at g4jzf@worked-all-britain.org.uk who has worked hard to update the current tracker and kindly offered to assist those who would rather update their existing tracker than download a new one.

