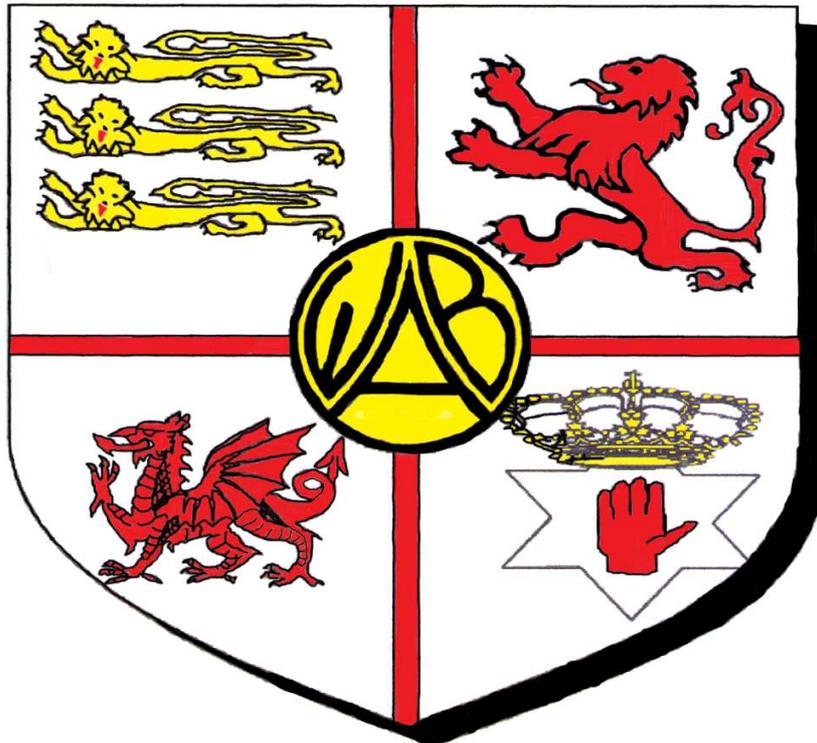


# ISSUE 127



*To Assist Others*

**THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL  
OF THE  
WORKED ALL BRITAIN  
AWARDS GROUP**

PRESIDENT &  
CONTEST MANAGER

Brian Stocks G0BFJ, 96 North Street, Lockwood, Huddersfield HD1 3SL, Tell: 01484 314910, g0bfj@worked-all-britain.co.uk

SECRETARY

Geoff Darby-G7GJU, 60 Pine Street, Grange Villa, Chester-le-Street, Durham, DH2 3LX. Tell: 0191-370 2032. Mobile: 07971-262988. g7gju@worked-all-britain.co.uk

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Graham. S. Taylor-G4JZF. 1 Threshers Drive, Manor Farm Estate, Willenhall, WV12 4AN. Tell: - 01902 411 171. g4jzf@worked-all-britain.co.uk

NEWSLETTER EDITOR &  
RALLIES CO-ORDINATOR:

Geoff Darby-G7GJU, 60 Pine Street, Grange Villa, Chester-le-Street, Durham, DH2 3LX. Tell: 0191-370 2032. Mobile: 07971-262988. g7gju@worked-all-britain.co.uk

BOUNDARY CHANGES &  
INTERNET CO-ORDINATOR:

Kevin Hale-G0AKH, 58 St Stephens Road, Saltash, Cornwall, PL12 4BJ. Tell: 01752-843 277. g0akh@worked-all-britain.co.uk

WITHOUT PORTFOLIO

Sue Pearson-G0NLX, 41 Broad Street, Chesham, Bucks, HP5 3EA,  
Tell: 01494-772 325. g0nlx@worked-all-britain.co.uk

TREASURER & AWARDS MANAGER

Dave Brooks-G4IAR, 28 Avon Vale Road, Loughborough, Leics, LE11 2AA.  
Tell: 01509-556 286. g4iar@worked-all-britain.co.uk

PUBLICITY MANAGER

John Fitzgerald-G8XTJ, 21 Honor Road, Prestwood, Great Missenden, Bucks, HP16 0NJ. Tell: 01494-865 512. g8xtj@worked-all-britain.co.uk

SWL REP

Chris Gibbs BRS-47426, 24 Sutton Road, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 4AH.  
brs47426@worked-all-britain.co.uk

CORRESPONDING MEMBER

Brian Morris-G4KSQ, 22 Burdall Avenue, Headington, Oxford, OX3 8ED. Tell:  
01865-763 696

PUBLICITY MANAGER

Chris Colclough-G1VDP, 52 Alexandra Street, Nuneaton, CV11 5RL  
Tell: 024 76735940  
Mob: 07866 248807

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The  
Worked All Britain Award  
Group  
Are holding Their  
Annual General meeting.  
At the  
Elvaston Castle Radio Rally  
On the 10th of June 2007.  
We will be in a dedicated  
marquee where you will be able  
to See what WAB has to offer  
and the AGM will be held  
there too at 1.00pm

## From The Presidents Pen

It is coming up to the time of the year when we all have to think about the AGM

The AGM has moved back to Elvaston Castle to try and encourage more of you to attend. Not only is it the business bit for WAB it is the prize giving and a chance for you all to put faces to call signs.

The first thing is the changes and additions to the constitution these have to be with the secretary ( G7GJU ) one hundred days prior to the a AGM and then have to be voted on at the AGM so it is down to you the members to attend and cast your vote.

The group also requires more committee members so if you feel you have something to offer and are prepared to attend committee meetings please get you nomination in writing to Geoff G7GJU before the 20<sup>th</sup> of May.

On another note I know that 80 Mtrs is noisy but we do have nets running and mobiles out and about putting on areas it would be nice to hear more of you on the band, so how about it why not switch on the rig and join in.

I could go on about other topics but I will leave them to the AGM

I hope that I shall see many of you at the AGM please make yourselves known.

Brian G0BFJ

# Obituary

## Keith Draycott, G3UQT

We first met Keith at the AGM at Drayton Manor Park in 1979. He helped to ease Dave into WAB and taught him some of the finer points. You would not be wrong in thinking that he was Dave's WAB mentor.

Keith was a very able Awards Manager for many years and continued to act as a QSL Sub-Manager right up to his passing.

Ivan G3GKC tells the tale of when he sent his first claim in to Keith. Eager "not to get it wrong", he phoned Keith beforehand to ensure that all was in order.

He was somewhat disappointed and perplexed to see that the claim came back with a big red 'X' next to one of the areas... all else seemed to be correct. He was sure it was fine... and was just on the verge of picking up the phone to berate Keith when he noticed that the 'X' in question was next to the area claimed from Dave GW3XHG – otherwise known as 'X'!! J

This is just one example... not only did Keith do the job exceptionally well, he did it with a sense of humour!

The amount of WAB knowledge that Keith carried in his head cannot be beaten by the fastest PC of our time. A person of that calibre does not come into the hobby very often. He will be sadly missed.

Dave & Judith

# Proposed Changes to the Constitution

## Proposed amendments to the Worked All Britain Constitution

2b The aims of the Worked All Britain Group *amended to read:*

When financially expedient, to assist Organisations helping less fortunate Radio Amateurs, Short Wave Listeners **and other Registered Charities (not necessarily concerned with amateur radio), and to assist with radio expeditions promoting Worked All Britain, providing criteria set by the Worked All Britain committee are met.**

Proposed Kevin Hale G0AKH  
Seconded Chris Colclough G1VDP

*As purchase of a WAB CD does not constitute WAB membership according to our current constitution, I would like to propose the following amendments to the Worked All Britain constitution (the sections in red italics are the amended ones). Also, I could not find any mention of specifically calling the date of an AGM in the Newsletter and RadCom, hence the first amendment to 8b. Please take these as two separate proposals, to be voted on separately.*

3 Membership amended to read:

*Shall be open to all Radio Amateurs and Short Wave Listeners. Membership is upon the purchase of a Worked All Britain Record Book or CD each of which is sequentially numbered. The ownership of more than one W.A.B. Record Book or CD does not entitle a member to more than one vote at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting. Membership is to the initial purchaser or recipient of the W.A.B. Record Book and is not transferable by resale or re-donation of the book.*

*Membership privileges may be withdrawn by the officers of the group if a member does not operate within the terms of their licence or not in the spirit of the W.A.B. Awards Group*

Proposed Kevin Hale G0AKH &  
Seconded Sue Pearson G0NLX.

8b Meetings *amended to read:*

A General Meeting shall be held annually (AGM) *at a time, date and place published in a Newsletter, on the Worked All Britain Website and, if possible, in Radio Communication magazine.* Items or proposals for discussion shall be received in writing by the Honorary Secretary no later than 28 days prior to the published date of the meeting, with the exception of a proposal for an

addition, deletion or amendment to the Constitution which shall be no later than 100 days prior to the published date of the meeting. Any proposal concerning the Constitution shall be published in a Newsletter and on the WAB Website prior to the published date of the meeting. The agenda shall be presented at the Annual General Meeting only. All motions and proposals shall require a simple majority vote of those present for acceptance. If after 30 minutes have elapsed from the published start of the meeting it is not quorate the meeting will be dissolved and reconvened within six weeks at a time, date and place set by the Honorary Secretary. The Officers and committee shall remain in office until such meeting is held. The quorum for an AGM shall be the sum of the number of Worked All Britain Committee Members present, plus 5 members. **The above 2 items were proposed by Kevin Hale G0AKH and Seconded by Sue Pearson G0NLX**

6d The Honorary Treasurer is responsible for the day to day finances of the group and will be required to produce an annual balance sheet at the AGM to cover the previous financial year. **(The accounts shall be examined by a Qualified Accountant )**  
**Proposed Brian Stocks G0BFJ &**

#### **Seconded Graham Taylor G4JZF**

*As the number of members on the W.A.B. Committee is fairly small, and corresponding members are included in the calculation of the required number for a quorum, the possibility of a meeting not being quorate is increased. I would therefore like to propose the following amendments to the Worked All Britain constitution (the sections in **red italics** are the amended/added ones). I have amended the Web Site & CD to show which are the two corresponding members.*

*8d Meetings amended to read:*

A minimum of two committee meetings shall be held between each Annual General Meeting. The Honorary Secretary shall inform each committee member of the time, date and place of a meeting and produce an agenda. The quorum for a committee meeting shall be fifty percent plus one of the elected Committee (***excluding corresponding members***). **Proposed Dave Brooks G4IAR, Seconded Chris Colclough G1VDP**

*Due to the potential increase in funds available for charitable donations, I would like to propose the following amendment to the Worked All Britain constitution (the sections in **red italics** are the amended ones).*

*As Norman Marshall's (G1NTW) legacy to W.A.B. is not mentioned in our current constitution, I would like to propose the following amendments to the*

*Worked All Britain constitution (the sections in red italics are the amended/ added ones).*

*Section regarding the legacy from Norman Marshall G1NTW added:*

**11. Legacy from Norman Marshall G1NTW** The late Norman Marshall G1NTW (a serving committee member at the time of his death) bequeathed the sum of £150,000 to W.A.B. The committee in place at the time the bequest was received invested the money in a Multi

Manager Distribution Fund with the Portfolio Service of F & C Fund Management Ltd.

a. The four trustees of the fund in which the Norman Marshall legacy is invested must be serving members of the committee.

b. *Only the dividend from the investment fund shall be used for any donations made as per the constitution, and for the day-to-day running of W.A.B.*

Proposed John Fitzgerald G8XTJ  
Seconded Dave Brooks G4IAR

## Snippets of Minutes of WAB Meeting

Held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2007  
At Memory Lane, Heanor.

Meeting opened at 12.15pm with G0BFJ in the chair.

**Members present:** G0BFJ, G7GJU, G4IAR, G8XTJ, G1VDP, G0AKH, G0NLX.

**01. Apologies for Absence** were received from Graham Taylor G4JZF & Brian Morris

**02. Minutes of previous meeting** were read and after some amendments were accepted.

Sec 4b, Para. 3. please remove “web site” and insert “reflector”

*Sec 12 please insert “of 10p” so that it reads “Geoff G7GJU Proposed that a rate of 10p per mile would be appropriate.”*

**03. Matters Arising,**

Sec. 8. Brian G0BFJ asked about WAB-IT Contest log and the new overseas prefixes not working properly. Kevin G0AKH answered that it was down to the operator not the program.

Sec. 9. G4IAR informed the meeting that he was in possession of the new QSL cards It was proposed by Brian G0BFJ and Seconded by Geoff G7GJU that as there were so few of the old QSL card left and that the details on the cards were well out of date that these be scrapped. This Proposal was carried unanimously.

Sec. 13. G4IAR informed the meeting that the new Log Books had arrived. It was agreed that the prices for these would be £2.00 per book at Rallies and £3.00 per 1 book posted & £5 per 2 books posted.

**04. Reports:**

**President.** Brian read out the two resignations that had been received and the reasons behind them. The committee accepted these

- b. Treasurer: Dave G4IAR read his report and explained reasons behind the increases and decreases in our funds.**
- c. Secretary. No report available as there is a change over of Secretaries. However Geoff G7GJU was voted in by the Committee as Secretary.**
- d. Contest Manager:** There were three entries in the Top Band contest one of which was a new entry from Craven Radio Group/P
- e. Boundary Changes:** Nothing to report at this time.
- f. Internet Co-ordinator:** I have still received no direct feedback from anyone complaining about (or even mentioning) the WAB Spots being removed, but I have received a couple of comments second hand.

An 'Award of the Month' section has been added to the front page of the web site as previously agreed, giving brief details of one of the WAB Awards – in this case, the Decade Award. This will be amended approximately monthly to keep the front page fresh, should it ever stagnate with no new news (unlikely at present!) Geoff G7GJU has now managed to produce an Adobe Acrobat (PDF) version of the latest newsletter. The current version of the newsletter is now 'downloadable' from the site. As Geoff says, we shall have to see what effect this has on Newsletter subscription rates.

- g. Awards Manager:** There have been twelve awards issued since the

last meeting: -

The low numbers are probably due to people being otherwise occupied over Christmas/New Year.

Sue asked about the printing of Certificates on Parchment that were given in place of trophies.

- h. Newsletter Editor:** Subscriptions have again remained much the same, there are some who have not renewed and there are a number of new subscriptions.

With the approval of the committee I intend to try and bring a newsletter out within two weeks of us holding a committee meeting where I will publish snippets of that meeting. Likewise now that I have got the newsletter in WEB format this will also be forwarded to Kevin for inclusion on the website.

**This was agreed.**

- I Rally Manager:** Yet again we have come up smelling of roses through our attendance at more and more Rallies throughout the year. We are invited to attend the Junction28 QRP Rally and Wakefield Rally this is the start of the rally season this year.
- J Publicity Officer:** Chris read a lengthy report explaining his intent with this job and telling us of the publishers who had been sent WAB material for inclusion in their Magazines.
- k. Memberships Secretary:** As usual there is not much to say apart from that I am pleased to say that book sales have almost been the same since the last meeting but there have been more book numbers sold this time.

Since the last committee meeting there have been 76 books sold made up as follows :- 14 books, 10 CD's and 52 book numbers.

- l. SWL: No Report given

05. Norman's Legacy: Discussion then ensued over money left to WAB by Norman Marshall . We have four trustees namely: Kevin Hale G0AKH, Dave Brooks G4IAR, Sue Pearson G0NLX, and Geoff Darby G7GJU. The initial amount invested is safeguarded with the insured life of the oldest Trustee. In this instance Geoff G7GJU is the insured Trustee.

The rest of this discussion revolved around the constitutional

changes that needed to be made in order to administer this money

**Please see separate sheet**

06. AGM. It was agreed that the AGM for 2007 be held at the Elvaston Castle Rally and that the following be booked with the Rally Organisers. One 30 feet x 30 feet Marquee. @ a projected cost of £178 +VAT  
Six 8 foot Trestle Tables @ a projected cost of £2.25 each  
50 Chairs @ a projected cost of £0.80 each  
Plus information be sort regarding a sound system
07. **Constitution. Please see separate sheet**
08. Committee. All the committee present agreed for re-election.
09. **NATS.** This Item to be put on the AGM Agenda.  
Geoff was instructed to write to G0SGB & G4WSB informing them that this was to be discussed with the members and for the members to decide on whether NATS was to continue as a WAB award; the letter also to invite them both to give their opinions.
10. **Trophies** Dave G4IAR to circulate a list of Trophies required for presentation.
11. **Book Number Award.** The Membership Secretary put forward a proposal to change the requirements for the Book Number Award. It was felt that this could not be changed considering the length of time the original award had been running.
12. Certificates of Merit. There was a note on the previous meetings minutes asking for Certificates of merit to be included in this meeting. All the committee were asked to ponder on who should receive a Certificate of Merit
13. Constructive Criticism. This item was put on the agenda as an aside. It is about suggestions to be put to the membership as a whole both on the Website and in the Newsletter.
14. AOB. Science week. It was asked who was to use the two WAB callsigns and it was agreed that the membership should be given first choice.
- 15 The Annual General Meeting to start at 1.00pm

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.15pm.**

# NATS.

I feel that some background information is necessary on this award so it is with a little trepidation that I give you the following.

In the beginning The NATS Award was the brainchild of Bill Bowditch G4WSB and it was decided that WAB would administer the award on his behalf.

There was then a period of unrest and the Award was discontinued for a short while. It was then decided that WAB would take over in total the NATS award and from that point there has been so much unrest that it has now been decided by the committee to put the future of the NATS award to the

membership.

The main cause of this unrest has been the antagonism between two factions namely NATS and BARLS, so it has been decided that this item be put on the AGM agenda and if the membership wish for NATS to continue then continue it shall however if they feel that WAB would be better of without then it shall be discontinued with immediate effect.

I thought it necessary to include this little bit so that you were aware of it when it appears on the Agenda. So any comments please keep until the AGM or direct them to me please.

Geoff G7GJU

## Report on GB0WAB by G8XLH

A few of us decided to run a special event station on new years day, starting at a few seconds past midnight on new years eve.

We arrived at about 10pm on New Years Eve and prepared the community centre ready for the event start at midnight. On HF phone we decided to use my Icom 7400 and on VHF we used the clubs Kenwood TS780 with a 100 Watt linear

loaned by John G4HPW.

We also decided to run a data station using RTTY and psk31 with an Icom 756 pro mk3 also on loan to the club. For HF antenna's we used the clubs G5RV and a couple of temporary antenna, one was a moonraker HF 5 band mobile antenna and the other is a home brew vertical made from a

roach pole and 4:1 balun.

With a mug of mulled wine we toasted the New Year and started to operate.

Our first contact on HF was with M0OVL in WAB square TL49. At 00:32 we were called by another special event station GB4BLC. As conditions were starting to get poor on HF we closed the station 00:51 with GM0KPH in NH95 square. On VHF our first QSO was with Ron G4DXW our club chairman. By 00:36 we had worked 9 stations on 2M FM. On the data side our first contact of the day was with KP4/DL3VLN and at 01:24 we closed the station after finishing with EA7HZ. Since the bands were quite not too good we decided to go home and get a few hours sleep and resume at 8am.

At 8am we started operating the station with a cup of tea and bacon sandwich. On Data there was a RTTY happy New Year contest and we worked 51 stations with the GB call. On 2 Metres we had a further 14 contacts on FM simplex and 1 on SSB. Our HF phone station worked a further 27 stations. Finally at about 16:00 we decided to close the station so we could have a good rest and prepare for work the next day.

So was it a success, I would say an unqualified yes. Apart from having over

150 contacts promoting WAB and the new GB award it was a good opportunity for our club members to look at a few different rigs, and see some different software being used for the data modes.

In addition to the operating, there were quite a few behind the scene activities including the writing of 150 QSL cards, putting the details on QRZ.com, sending the details to the WAB reflector, and of course the catering throughout the day, which at lunchtime was a very nice jacket potatoes with Chilli. We also made sure that envelopes were sent to the RSGB QSL bureau for those who wanted to QSL VIA traditional means.

Our thanks go to:-

Alan G8XLH  
Tracey M5ATR  
Kirsten M0JCI  
John G4HPW  
Ron G4DXW  
George G4FKG  
Steve G1KWF  
Heather G7JNN

Dave G4FVK

May I thank WAB for backing the event and allowing us to use GB0WAB for the day.

Regards Alan G8XLH



# A funny thing about Haggis

I have received many emails on the subject of "How could something like a haggis evolve?", so as always, in my search for the truth, I have painstakingly sifted through ancient documents, scrolls, papyrus and a pile of old Christmas cards, and then I stumbled upon a find of epic proportions! There are no photographs of haggis anywhere! Search the web all you like, read every copy of National Geographic ever written, you will not find one picture of haggis. Granted there are a few "artists impressions" out there, but no actual photographs.

I decided to become the first person to publish a photo' of a haggis, and armed with my trusty box Brownie, a tripod made from bits of hazel stick, and with thoughts of fame, fortune and gorgeous women on my mind, I ventured off into the hills. I spend night after night sleeping rough (until I found the lumps, and turned the mattress over). Then one evening, I heard in the distance, the sound of the 'pipes. I knew it was either haggis mating, or yet another novice piper thrown out of town to practice, and started off in the direction of the sound.

As I approached the source of the sound, I observed a sight which will forever be imprinted in my memory - two haggis engaged in a mating ritual! My heart stopped! Fame and fortune didn't have a look in! I would be the first to capture not only the haggis on film, but to be able to record this event for all to see - future generations would remember my name - women would flock to my door, I'd tour the world giving lectures on haggis, heads of state would nod while passing me in the street! I'd be set up for life!

Stealthily, I set up my photographic equipment, and waited, then came the moment of truth. Click! Captured for posterity, for the world to see! Now, wind the film on until the next number shows in the wee red window, and Click! again - I used a whole roll of film on the sight (a whole 12 exposures), hang the expense, this was world shattering news! It did cross

my mind perhaps I should have used colour film, but that was stretching it a wee bit too far.

As I left the scene, I could hardly wait - I rushed back home, my hands shaking as I removed the film from the camera, and loaded it into the tank. This was better than the winning lottery ticket! Then I examined the negatives, looking for the best one to print ... nothing ... just a sort of fuzziness where the haggis ought to be ... every one the same. I was heartbroken - the gorgeous babes I had imagined flocking to my door vanished, and in their place would come double glazing salesmen, insurance salesmen, and Jehovah's Witnesses.

What had happened? I printed the "best" picture, and enhanced it digitally, and yes, there was a haggis shaped blob there, but no detail. Suddenly I had an idea! The haggis must be able to bend light in some way! They must have a natural camouflage. I decided to borrow a VCR and a digital camera - just in case they could somehow affect photographic film. Sadly, the results returned from all other kinds of recording media were the same. No pictures.

Disheartened, I sat in the solitude of my bedroom, when the idea came to me - radioactivity!!! Haggis are radioactive! A new theory! It fits! Why do haggis thrive in Scotland? Because the parts of Scotland haggis thrive best are the Highlands, and what kind of rock is prevalent there? Granite - which has a long half-life. Do haggis need radiation to thrive? Do they actually feed on radiation? Are they in fact not native to this planet after all, but perhaps some pets from a UFO which landed hundreds if not thousands of years ago, and escaped? Yes! A new theory, and one which is beginning to make sense, and to explain much about this fascinating animal.

All I can say for the moment is I am engaged in some ground-breaking research, once more venturing into the hills, and the results of this will be published first here on this website! Fame and fortune (and the babes) will yet be mine ... keep coming back for more ... sooner or later I will crack the riddle of the haggis.

Information provided by [john@wilsonjo.demon.co.uk](mailto:john@wilsonjo.demon.co.uk)

## ***THE WAB-IT PROGRAM for WAB Record Keeping***

- Keep information on WAB Areas, Rateable Districts/Unitary Authorities/ Counties, Large Squares, Millennium Award, Decade Award, English/Welsh/ Scottish/Northern Irish Awards, WAB Bookholders, Islands worked/heard and Net Control Hours.
- Prepare claims for WAB Awards.
- Prepare 'hit lists' of areas etc. still needed to be worked/heard.
- Keep information on stations worked/heard - a computer version of a card index system.

### **Minimum hardware requirements:**

- IBM PC or compatible running Windows 3.1/Windows 95/Windows 98 (Not XP)
- 4 Mbytes of RAM
- 640 x 480 pixel screen resolution
- at least 15 Mbytes of free hard disk space
- 3.5" floppy disk drive A:

## ***THE WAB-IT CONTEST PROGRAM for WAB Contest Logging***

- Log your entry for WAB Contests.
- Automatically score your Contest entry.
- Prepare claims for WAB Contests.
- Automatically update WAB-IT Program information (if installed).

### **Minimum hardware requirements:**

- IBM PC or compatible running Windows 3.1/Windows 95/Windows 98 (Not XP)
- 4 Mbytes of RAM
- 640 x 480 pixel screen resolution
- at least 4 Mbytes of free hard disk space
- 3.5" floppy disk drive A:



**WAB-IT:** £20-00 (UK) inc. P+P  
**WAB-IT CONTEST:** £15-00 (UK) inc. P+P  
**WAB-IT & WAB-IT CONTEST** (if purchased together): £30-00 (UK) inc. P+P  
**WAB-IT CONTEST** for existing users of **WAB-IT:** £10-00 (UK)

**Program updates/Screen Shots** at <http://www.wab-it.co.uk>

**Send your order & payment to:**

**Kevin Hale G0AKH**

**58 St. Stephens Road, Saltash, Cornwall. PL12 4BJ England.**

**E-mail:** [info@wab-it.co.uk](mailto:info@wab-it.co.uk)

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