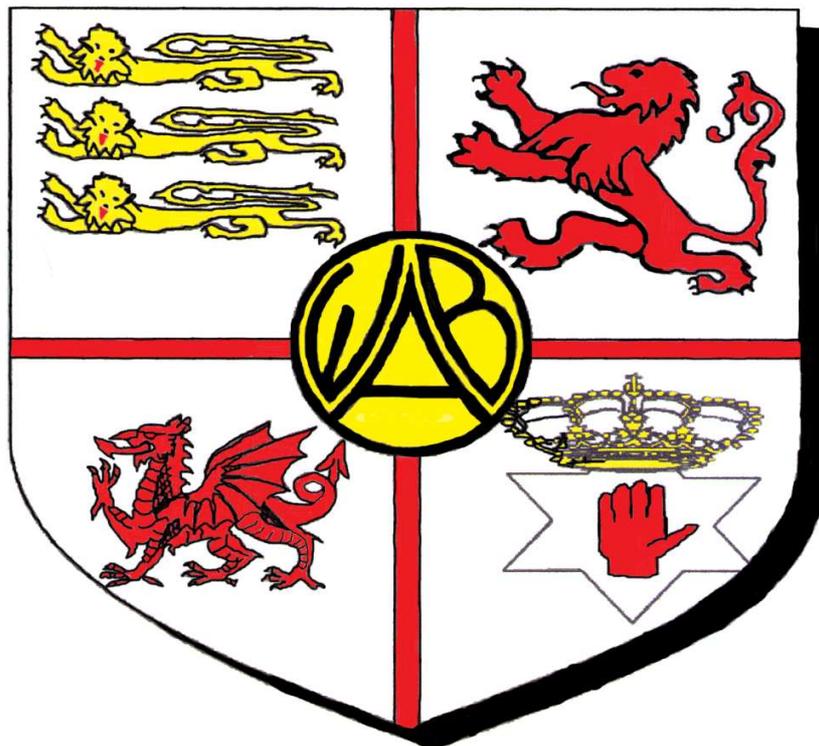


# ISSUE 128



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

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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

We are coming now to the time of year when you all get the chance to put faces to call signs and most of all put your ideas to the committee so please try your best to attend the AGM at Elvaston Castle Rally on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

You should have seen on the agenda there are a few changes proposed, these are to enable the committee more options as to how money can be donated and used.

You may have ideas of your own?

Do we sponsor WAB activity? and if so how do we regulate it?

We have already lowered the price of membership and the cost of awards; these are beneficial to all active members

Please remember that it was Normans ( G1NTW ) wish that the money he left to the group were to ensure that WAB would never have any financial worries.

I would like to see more members joining the committee so if you feel that you would like to help please let me know.

You would be required to attend committee meetings in the Darby area four times a year, new members to a committee bring in a better cross section of the membership giving a broader outlook on what decisions are made.

I am looking forward to meeting you at the AGM please make yourselves known

Brian GOBFJ

## AWARD OF THE "MONTH"

(Part 3 of an occasional series)

This bit should really be the way of a statement of entitled 'Award Of The where you've worked Random Period". It's members. There is no limit, something to produce when (other than the number of Geoff is struggling a bit for DXCC countries), on how many certificates you can claim, but each contact must be with a different country. We make a note of what you've claimed before - so no cheating!

I thought we'd have a quick look at what I think is one of our most colourful & attractive awards - The WAB DX Award.

The concept behind this is quite simple. It is issued for working bookholders in 10 different DXCC countries. These include the G countries, something claimants often overlook. Off you go then, have a look back in your log books, don't forget the G countries to get you off to a flyer - that's probably 5 or 6 already.

The certificate is produced with the flags of the countries in which you've had a QSO with/heard a member.

There is no class of award, the certificate is more in

73, Dave, G4IAR

P.S. Judith & myself have bought a camper van. It's not top of the range, far from it, but we hope in due course it will enable us to get around a bit more.

*From the Secretaries Quill*

*Geoff*

G7GJU

After a lot of brain bashing we decided to put the Newsletter onto the website, this as expected has caused a decline in Newsletter renewal of subscriptions. I am a little disappointed in this development however it is not the end of the world we must go forward.

I have suggested to the committee that we must revamp the newsletter giving a number of ideas to work on. What I would like from you the members are ideas as to just what you want in the Newsletter, or even better something from yourselves to publish.

A number of years ago I got a write up from for an in line battery charger that had enabled him to use a car battery that was no longer serviceable for the car to power his Radio. This little piece of kit enabled the battery to be used for about 18 months at which time it was put back onto the car in order to sell the car.

The surprise came after some considerable time the buyer of the car was still using the battery that would not hold a charge for more than a couple of days was still in use.

It was wondered if the constant slow charge had some way contributed to the de-sulvation of the battery.

At the time this article was well received by the readers and I wondered if anyone had any similar pieces of home brew that they would not be without. Please if you have then write about it give me the plans and I will share it with everyone.

We are told that we are now in the bottom of the trough of the Sun Spot cycle so things can only get better let's wait and see but the thought of the activity when you can make a call and be heard really does inspire the thoughts.

## Awards Since last Newsletter

No	Callsign	Mode	Band	Date Issued	Class	Award
377	G0RQL	Mixed	Mixed	06/02/2007	300 Mixed Series	Book No's
581	G0RQL	Mixed	Mixed	06/02/2007	100 Mixed Series	Book No's
187	G0RQL	Mixed	Mixed	06/02/2007	800 Mixed Series	Book No's
210	G0RQL	Mixed	Mixed	06/02/2007	700 Mixed Series	Book No's
2	G3GKC	Mixed	Mixed	06/02/2007	6600 Mixed Series	Book No's
255	G0RQL	Mixed	Mixed	06/02/2007	600 Mixed Series	Book No's
321	G0RQL	Mixed	Mixed	06/02/2007	400 Mixed Series	Book No's
172	G0RQL	Mixed	Mixed	06/02/2007	900 Mixed Series	Book No's
439	G0RQL	Mixed	Mixed	06/02/2007	200 Mixed Series	Book No's
87	G0RQL	Mixed	Mixed	06/02/2007	1400 Mixed Series	Book No's
97	G0RQL	Mixed	Mixed	06/02/2007	1300 Mixed Series	Book No's
114	G0RQL	Mixed	Mixed	06/02/2007	1200 Mixed Series	Book No's
126	G0RQL	Mixed	Mixed	06/02/2007	1100 Mixed Series	Book No's

No's	Callsign	Mode	Band	Totals	Date Issued	Class	Award
162	G0RQL	Mixed	Mixed		06/02/2007	1000 Mixed Series	Book Numbers
289	G0RQL	Mixed	Mixed		06/02/2007	500 Mixed Series	Book Numbers
9	G3GKC			5881	06/02/2007	2006	Certificate of Achievement
3	G0RQL	Mixed	HF	22	06/02/2007	HF/Mixed	Christmas Party 2006
17	G0RQL	Mixed	Mixed		06/02/2007	Basic	Decade 2006
18	G0RQL	SSB	Mixed		06/02/2007	Basic	Decade 2006
88	G0RQL	SSB	40m		06/02/2007	Class 3	English
89	G0RQL	SSB	80m		06/02/2007	Class 3	English
87	G0RQL	SSB	Mixed		06/02/2007	Class 3	English
86	M0JDK	HF	Mixed		06/02/2007	Class 3	English
85	M0JDK	VHF	Mixed		06/02/2007	Class 3	English
42	G0RQL	SSB	Mixed		06/02/2007	Class 2	English
90	DL8UVG	Mixed	Mixed		06/02/2007	Class 3	English
22	M0JDK	SSB	Mixed		06/02/2007	No Class	Isle of Man
104 7	M0JDK	Mixed	Mixed		06/02/2007	Class 3	Large Squares
8	G3GKC	SSB	LF		06/02/2007	Class 3	London Calling Boroughs
34	G0RQL	SSB	Mixed		06/02/2007	Class 3	Scottish
35	G0RQL	SSB	80m		06/02/2007	Class 3	Scottish
39	G0RQL	SSB	Mixed		06/02/2007	Class 3	Welsh

This was sent to me by my Daughter when I was in a very low state of mind and things were not going to well.

The start of it may sound a little morbid but please read it as it was meant.

Here's to T-bone steaks, yellow roses  
and friendship.

READ THIS!!!!  
and then reread it.

[Especially the last part...](#)

I walked into the grocery store not particularly interested in buying groceries. I wasn't hungry. The pain of losing my husband of 7 years was still too raw. And this grocery store held so many sweet memories.

He often came with me and almost every time he'd pretend to go off and look for something special. I knew what he was up to I'd always spot him walking down the aisle with the three yellow roses in his hands.

He knew I loved yellow roses. With a heart filled with grief, I only wanted to buy my few items and leave, but even grocery shopping was different since he had passed on.

Shopping for one took time, a little more thought than it had for two.

Standing by the meat, I searched for the perfect small steak and remembered how he had loved his steak.

Suddenly a woman came beside me. She was blonde, slim and lovely in a soft green pantsuit. I watched as she picked up a large package of T-bones, dropped them in her basket. Hesitated, and then put them back. She turned to go and once again reached for the pack of steaks.

She saw me watching her and she smiled "My husband loves T-bones, but honestly, at these prices, I don't know."

I swallowed the emotion down my throat and met her pale blue eyes.

"My husband passed away eight days ago," I told her. Glancing at the package in her hands, I fought to control the tremble in my voice. "Buy him the steaks. And cherish every moment you have together."

She shook her head and I saw the emotion in her eyes as she placed the package in her basket and wheeled away.

I turned and pushed my cart across the length of the store to the dairy products. There I stood, trying to decide which size milk I should buy. A Quart, I finally decided and moved on to the ice cream. If nothing else, I could always fix myself an ice cream cone.

I placed the ice cream in my cart and looked down the aisle toward the front. I saw first the green suit, then recognized the pretty lady coming towards me. In her arms she carried a package. On her face was the brightest smile I had ever seen I would swear a soft halo encircled her blonde hair as she kept walking toward me, her eyes holding mine.

As she came closer, I saw what she held and tears began misting in my eyes. "These are for you," she said and placed three beautiful long stemmed yellow roses in my arms. "When you go through the line, they will know these are paid for." She leaned over and placed a gentle kiss on my cheek, then smiled again. I wanted to tell her what she'd done, what the roses meant, but still unable to speak, I watched as she walked away as tears clouded my vision.

I looked down at the beautiful roses nestled in the green tissue wrapping and found it almost unreal. How did she know? Suddenly the answer seemed so clear. I wasn't alone.

Oh, you haven't forgotten me, have you? I whispered, with tears in my eyes. He was still with me, and she was his angel.

Every day be thankful for what you have and who you are.

*(Please read all of this, it is really nice)*

This is a simple request. If you appreciate life, send this to your friends, including the person that sent it to you.

Even though I clutch my blanket and growl when the alarm rings. Thank you, Lord, that

I can hear. There are many who are deaf.

Even though I keep my eyes closed against the morning light as long as possible. Thank you, Lord, that I can see. Many are blind.

Even though I huddle in my bed and put off rising. Thank you, Lord, that I have the strength to rise. There are many who are bedridden.

Even though the first hour of my day is hectic, when socks are lost, toast is burned, tempers are short, and my children are so loud.

Thank you, Lord, for my family. There are many who are lonely.

Even though our breakfast table never looks like the picture in magazines and the menu is at times unbalanced.

Thank you, Lord, for the food we have. There are many who are hungry.

Even though the routine of my job often is monotonous. Thank you, Lord, for the opportunity to work. There are many who have no job.

Even though I grumble and bemoan my fate from day to day and wish my circumstances were not so modest.

Thank you, Lord, for life.

Pass this on to the friends you know. It might help a bit to make this world a better place to live, right? A friend is someone we turn to when our spirits need a lift. A friend is someone to treasure.

For friendship is a gift. A friend is someone who fills our lives with Beauty, Joy and Grace and makes the world we live in a better and happier place.

YOU ARE MY FRIEND!

God bless you and yours.

## WAB on VHF

If you intend to collect areas on VHF there are several things you need to consider.

Firstly the matter of activity. Regular activity that I know of consists of nets on 144.345MHz SSB on Sundays at 1030 clock time and Fridays at 2030 clock time in the London and Home Counties area. We have had calls from Graham G4JZF from the Midlands and Les G6UBM from Kent. Recent mobile activity has been from Mick M3MCV activating London boroughs on Friday nights.

Secondly you need to consider equipment. You can of course collect on FM (but not on repeaters) but if you want to collect seriously you need to do so on CW or SSB. If you propose to do this you will need to have a horizontal aerial such as a yagi as most stations on these modes use horizontal polarization and in any case the yagi is directional and has gain giving you greater distance. There is a huge signal loss in trying to work horizontally polarized stations using a vertical so it is well worth putting up something horizontal even if it is only a two element such as an HB9CV. For mobiles the best bet is a halo which you can put on a roof rack or a bumper mount. Unlike verticals they do not need to be in the centre of the car roof as they do not need a ground plane. Alternatively you can use the G8XTJ solution and only operate when static by poking a small yagi (I use a Sandpiper 3 element on 2m) out of the sun roof or out through a side window on a short pole. This works very well with an Icom 706 MkIIG at 50 watts and if the pole is

short you can even drive with it in place as I have done in some contests. I tend to use a gel battery in a battery box to avoid draining the vehicle battery and getting QRM from the engine. I think Mick M3MCV uses an FT817 and the antenna is handheld.

Thirdly you need activity. It can be very quiet on the nets so you need to call on 144.3 and see who you can find. Failing that try the regular activity periods on Tuesday nights from 2000 - 2230 clock time organized by RSGB - the 2m one is the first Tuesday of the month. Contests are a good source of activity and stations will want points from you. In non WAB contests you will need to know your Maidenhead locator but many contesters will know their WAB area and tell you if asked. If no there are ways of working it out! Look at the RSGB contest calendar for dates. Upcoming big ones are on 2m VHF National Field Day on the first weekend in July and the Trophy the first weekend in September (1400 - 1400 GMT). Look out also for the backpackers section of most contests (But not NFD.) Don't forget the WAB contests.

You will notice I have referred entirely to 2 metres because that is where most of the VHF activity is but I also collect on Six where you may find lots of book holders in the summer sporadic E openings. There are one or two hardy souls who collect on Four but I don't know anyone collecting on Seventy centimetres. You could start!

I look forward to meeting you on Two or Six or on the nets!  
John Fitzgerald G8XTJ

**Snippets of Minutes of WAB Meeting  
Held on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2007  
At Memory Lane, Heanor.**

**Meeting opened at 12.30pm**

1. Apologise for absence received from G4IAR, G1VDP.

Members present: - GOBFJ, G7GJU, G4JZF, GOAKH, G8XTJ & GONLX.

**2. Minutes of last Meeting: -**

Were read to the committee and accepted, Proposed GONLX and seconded GOAKH.

**3. Matters Arising.**

Item 11, Book Number Award, Graham G4JZF agreed to the decision of the committee in leaving the Award as it is.

**4. Reports: -**

**President,**

Things are now moving on regarding Norman's legacy, if the members accept the changes to the constitution we will have to consider how we are going to use the interest.

We do need new committee members so I wonder if we should ask at the AGM.

I am still disappointed at the number of members on the HF nets.

BRIAN GOBFJ

**Discussion**

Brian added that there had been a couple of Mobiles running on a regular basis however there is still a grave shortage of net controllers.

He also reported that GM3VTY is now back on the air after his triple by pass.

**Contests,**

The next contest is the LF CW and DATA MODES on Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup>.

Followed by the LF PHONE contest on Sunday May 20<sup>th</sup>.

73 BRIAN GOBFJ.

**Secretary,**

Things are ticking over quite nicely. The answers to our questions regarding Norman's legacy are in hand and will be read at the meeting.

The Marquee is booked for the AGM

I have had a phone call from Steve Bryan & a letter from Bill Bowditch regarding the NAT's award.

A letter has been received from Denis Spooner G3WDS requesting a list of Lighthouse Numbers from Sunderland up to Berwick.

**Discussion**

The letter from Holmes Watchorn was read out and it was agreed to record the answers and to distribute to the

membership.

AGM marquee booking accepted but it was agreed that a sound system was not necessary.

A letter from Deb Bowditch was read out, this was regarding NATS. This was accepted.

GOBFJ then explained the requirements for BARLS.

Discussion then ensued regarding NATS and how to handle it at AGM it was agreed that debate was not necessary that it was just a straight vote by the membership as to whether it is to continue or not.

G7GJU had received the offer of G3ABG's Log Books and QSL cards.

A letter to be written to Kelvin March MOAID about RAIBC.

#### **Newsletter Editor,**

Since the advent of the newsletter going onto the WEB my subscription rate has gone down by about 75%

We really do need to have a major revamp of the newsletter and I propose that we take a series of topics and have an article written by one of us on each one that we decide upon. This I hope will inspire others to follow suit and give me more.

#### **Discussion**

The following articles were suggested for the Coming Newsletters.

Mobile and Portable Antenna,

VHF Mobile and Portable Antenna, John Fitzgerald G8XTJ to action this one,

5Mhz Graham Taylor G4JZF to action this one.

Any other suggestions will be greatly received, it was also agreed that these, where possible, will be on going and not just a one off.

### **Rally Manager,**

Not a lot to report apart from to say the more Rally's we are attending the more we are being looked for.

### **Discussion**

The Table clothes were discussed and it was agreed that some new ones be purchased using a better quality material. It was agreed that depending on the price we would purchase at least four.

### **Treasurer,**

All accounts are up-to-date. The Current Account presently stands at £6,647.66 and the Deposit at £4,081.15.

There is a steady input from Rallies and talks. Another dividend has been received from F & C - £1,446.80.

Letters have been received from St Dunstan's and RAIBC thanking WAB for it's recent donations.

### **Awards Manager,**

Since 1st February, 32 Awards have been issued (15 Bookhumbers, 1 Cert of Achievement, 1 Christmas Party, 2

Decade 2006, 7 English, 1 Isle of Man, 1 Large Squares, 1 London Calling, 2 Scottish and 1 Welsh.

A NATS award and an Islands Award have been dealt with today

**Membership Secretary,**

Since the last committee meeting there have been 81 books sold made up as follows :- 24 books, 18 CD's and 39 book numbers.

I have renewed on behalf of WAB our License Agreement with UKHO for the use of the Lists of Lights in regards to the NATS award which does not cost anything.

**Discussion**

It was agreed that the yearly book figures for membership would be as per the Financial Year and not AGM to AGM.

**Internet Co-ordinator,**

No major items.

For one short period, the web site was down. This was rectified by Intermip

In the near future, they will be physically moving the servers to London. The WAB web site will be held on a temporary server in the interim period, and there should be no visible effect.

**Boundary Changes,**

Nothing to report this time.

**Publicity Officer,**

No Report

**5. Normans Legacy,**

Discussion ensued about why the money appeared to be less than what we started with, this was through the initial setup fees.

It was agreed to leave what we are going to do with the interest until after the constitution changes at the next AGM.

**6. AGM,**

A discussion on what to do with the WAB stand during the AGM. It was agreed to close the area to Members only during the actual meeting.

**Awards,**

Recipients of the 2007 Awards were discussed

**Contests,**

LF Phone Single Op                      Steve White G3ZVW

LF Phone Mobile                          G4LAB

LF Phone Multi Op

144 MHz QRP, Single Op              Graham Taylor G4JZF

The Norman Marshall, G1NTW Trophy 50 MHZ Single Op  
Graham Taylor G4JZF

President's Trophy, (Overall Single Op Contest Winner)  
Graham Taylor G4JZF

Christmas Party: - Dave G4IAR to sort.

**7. Constitution: -**

The 100 days necessary for constitution changes appears in November 1997

It was agreed to publish the *Constitution Changes* on the WEB and on stickers to update already printed material.

**8. Committee: -**

All committee members present at Meeting agreed to stand.

**11. 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: -**

What to do for our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2009 was discussed and one idea was agreed upon and that was to produce a history of WAB and present it to Award winners in the year.

**12. Back Up: -**

Brian GOBFJ proposed that something should be done to back up each Committee position so that in the event of that officer not being able to fulfil his/her obligations things could continue seamlessly.

It was agreed for Kevin GOAKH to investigate the purchase of a number of memory sticks.

Brian GOBFJ Proposed and John G8XTJ seconded.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 16.30z.

Date of next meeting Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July.

## ***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:

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