

Extracts from....
THE VMARS NEWS SHEET

A publication of the Vintage and Military Amateur Radio Society

The VMARS News Sheet Issue 132 March 2014

**Blackpool Rally, Norbreck Castle Hotel
6th April 2014**

Once again this year, VMARS put on a substantial display at the Blackpool Rally, organised by the Northern Amateur Radio Societies Association of which VMARS is a member.

This traditional rally brings visitors from a very wide area of the UK, and it was pleasing to meet so many of our Members and visitors interested in our wide range of exhibits.



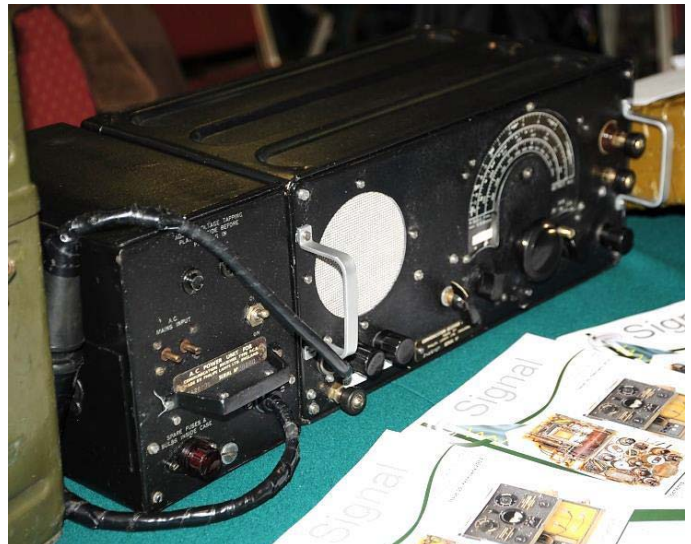
The exhibition team. Left to right: Broniek Wedzicha M0DAF, Stuart McKinnon G0TBI and Stuart Furbank M6AVC, with exhibits provided also by Roy Kavanagh GM4VKI and Dave Patrick G8KAP. The photograph was taken by Anne McKinnon M3TBI who joined us on the stand



Stuart McKinnon's B2 spyset with Broniek's GRC9 and Roy's early Eddystone RX in the background and Stuart McKinnon's Mk123 set just visible (right foreground)



There was plenty of interest in Roy's Russian R143 manpack



Stuart Furbank's very fine restoration of a PCR1

Alan Thompson G4MJ0, a non-member from Harrogate, quite unexpectedly presented one of our members with a Paraset chassis and also gifted to VMARS a box of valves of the type used in battery-powered receivers. A personal highlight of the Rally was when, by chance, I met up with newly licenced amateur David Horner, who I had not seen since the early 1970's when we served in the same Battalion of

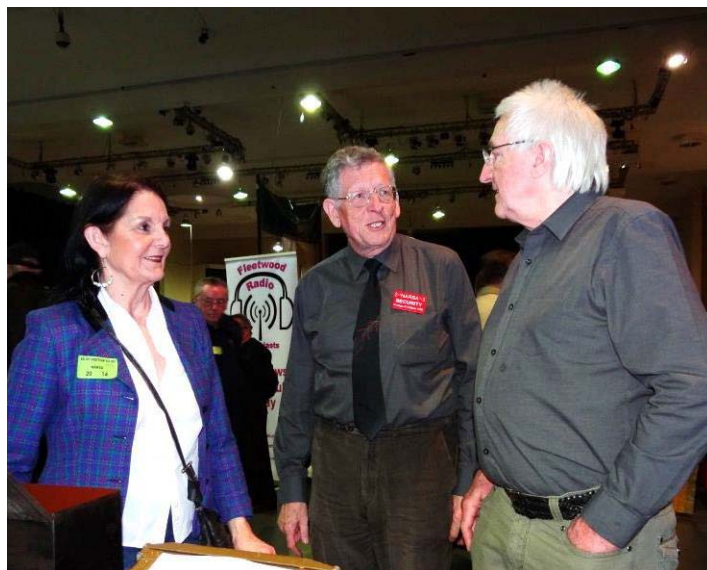
the Grenadier Guards in Belize, British Honduras. David, or Jack as he was nicknamed for obvious reasons, worked as an assault pioneer and built me and the team, at a place called Bawdy Beacon, a chicken pen where we housed our two hens, who I think were called Daisy and Maisy, and kept us in fresh eggs to supplement our rations at that tedious role of being a rebro station, although we were left to our own devices really.

Overall, an excellent Rally at which we were able to show visitors to the stand our wide range of interests in vintage wireless communications, to meet new members and those who we only know by their voices on the air.

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Anne busy with visitors to the stand



Bronek with Mike West G4EJM (right) and Glenda (left)

Stuart McKinnon G0TBI