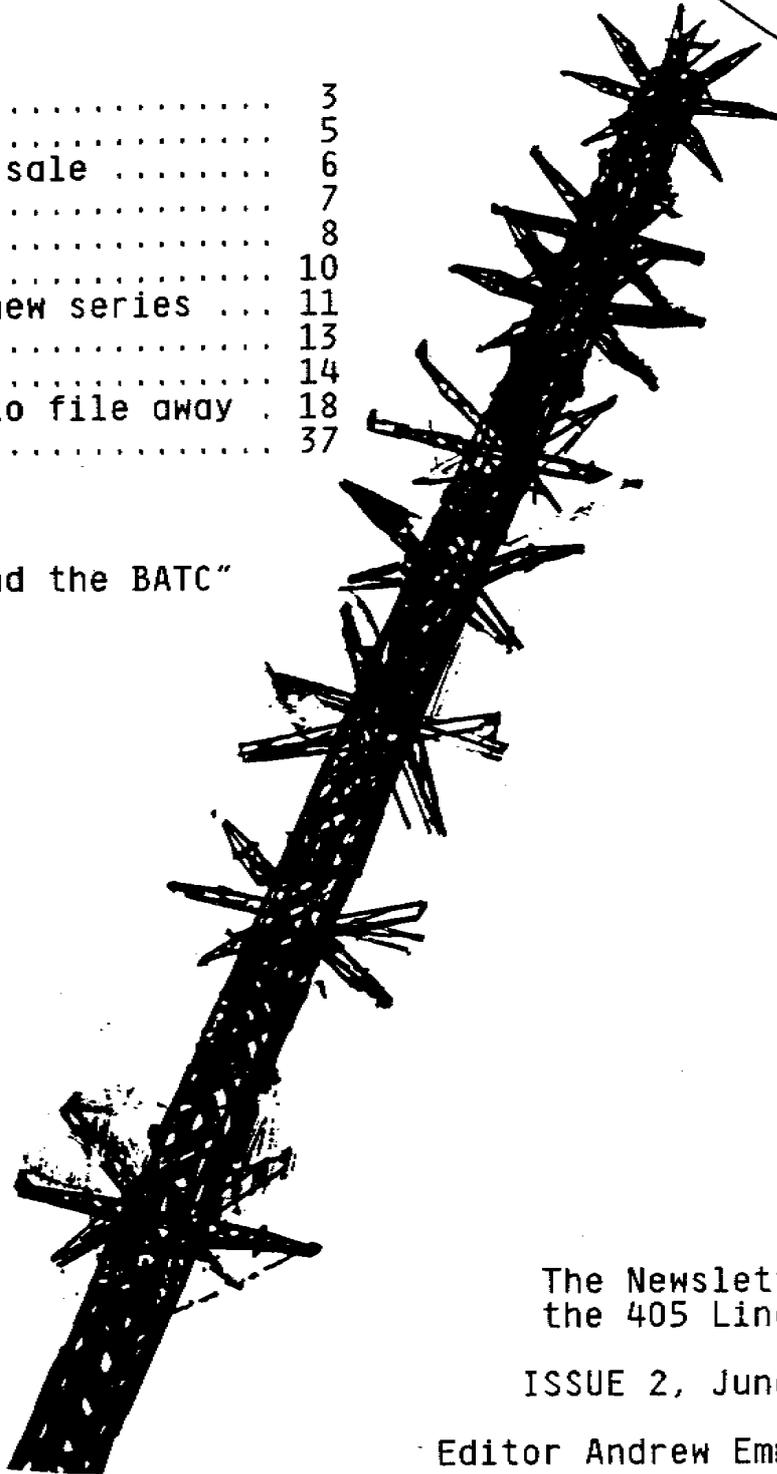


MORE PAGES - HUGE AD.

IN THIS ISSUE:

Your Letters	3
405 Line TV in Ireland	5
Programme material for sale	6
Days out	7
Test Card Topics	8
Bookshelf	10
BBC Test Card Music - new series ...	11
Notes and Queries	13
Strange but True	14
Big reference section to file away .	18
Market Place	37

"We support the BVWS and the BATC"

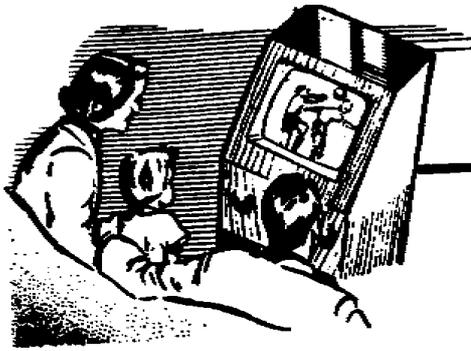


The Newsletter of
the 405 Line Group.

ISSUE 2, June 1989.

Editor Andrew Emmerson, G8P

405
LIVE



EDITORIAL

Welcome back - here is issue two, new and improved. More articles, loads more advertisements, more pages and a broader range of topics. I hope you like it! By the way, it was never my intention that *405 Alive* should be a purely technical bulletin, and I hope we can keep up the proportion of articles on programming and other aspects. Test Cards and the music which accompanied them are a favourite with many of you, and I am delighted to bring you a series of articles on this subject. The author, Paul Sawtell, has made a detailed study of the topic and will answer many of your questions. No research can ever be complete, and he will welcome any comments and queries you may wish to make.

Well, I should have guessed it would happen. No sooner had our existence been announced than I started to receive letters along the lines of "I have this very nice old TV, can you tell me what it is worth and who might buy it?".

How does one answer this? I don't consider myself expert on old receivers (cameras and transmitters are more my field) but I do know that few collectors expect to pay much for an old set. Many of us consider 50 pence a fair price for the average 405 line set and often we get them offered free!

That basically is the crunch: just about everyone has a granny or uncle who is desperate to offload an old set and usually they are so glad to make some space they are happy to give it away to a good home. Moreover, the bigger and more immovable the set, the less its attraction to collectors. What everyone wants is nice, compact table models like the TV22! (Did you see its picture in the newspaper advertisement for Philips's new video recorder?)

Obviously there are some particularly collectable items, like the TV22 just mentioned, and some collectors are prepared to dig deeper into their pockets for an especially interesting set, but in the main old TVs are not yet expensive, thank goodness! That's what makes this hobby so attractive, even the spare parts are fairly cheap if you know where to go. Anyway, what I offer these people is a free advertisement in *405 Alive*: whether they still have the sets by the time the newsletter appears is out of my hands of course.

Do you agree with this? Would you be happier if old receivers started to acquire "collector's prices"? Have you noticed a trend in prices? Write in and tell us all your opinion!

By the way, one or two of these "fan letters" (from non-subscribers) arrive without SAEs. Guess what? They go in the bin! That may sound cruel but it seems strange that people expect information that will be valuable to them, yet they don't consider it worth 14p ...

You will also note this time the first of a series of 'fact files'. Nothing startling you might think but the idea is to assemble in one handy article various bits of information on a theme which might otherwise take ages to piece together. Again, suggestions and contributions are most welcome.

Are we nothing but a nostalgia group? I hope not: nostalgia, besides not being what it used to be, is a dangerous thing to get involved in, at least for its own sake. You cannot bring back the past and it is futile to pretend you could. What we *can* do is to appreciate the best elements and craftsmanship of old equipment and programming while relating it to that of today. You can't walk backwards into the future, but equally you can't have a future without a past. Enough philosophy (and if you disagree why not write in and tell us why!).

Incidentally, we now have 43 subscribers (thank you for your support!). A few people who were very enthusiastic about the first issue have not sent in their cheques and SAEs. This is a pity and I wonder why. Perhaps they didn't like what they saw, or more likely, they just forgot. Odd but never mind. Anyway, I'm sure you will spread the word about *405 Alive*. Don't forget, it's *your* newsletter and it only exists because *you* decided it would be interesting to you. So try and contribute something, if only a letter or a small ad. Anything to avoid it being a one-man-band! And if there's a topic you'd like to see covered please write in and tell us. Another reader may be able to write us an article on that very same subject. All contributions are welcome!

A quick point. Two people sent their SAEs without stamps, while others sent only 19p stamps on theirs. You don't really want to have to pay postage due and you folk will have polite reminders to do better next time! Please cooperate in this ...

Lastly, people have asked me how long I think *405 Alive* can be kept going. The answer is as long as you find it interesting - there is certainly enough material for two years' worth at minimum. At very worst, if things start to fizzle out after that time, we'll wind things up (but not before everyone has had all the issues they paid for). The way things look, though, I don't think this will happen! But I look to you for support ...

Andy Emmerson.

LETTERS, WE GET LETTERS . . .

* From P. Thorpe, Delves, Walsall:

I am the owner of a working Pye FV1 single channel receiver: I bought it for 4 shillings from a friend at school almost twenty years ago. It was many years and a lot of hard work, components, etc. before I got it working. I enjoyed watching it for a few years and then they closed down the 405-line transmissions from the Sutton Coldfield transmitter ... and that ended its use.

However, I have built a simple transistor oscillator which puts a tone through

the audio section and also also fills the screen with a series of dashes to prove the scan function. Also I do from time to time come across very early TV receivers, but have had to pass them by because of storage problems.

* From Keith Rann, Loughton, Essex:

I would like a copy of the 2-hour demonstration film the BBC used to show in the 50s, with Big Ben striking 10 AM and Sylvia Peters announcing clips from programmes, with Test Card C in between. The BBC stopped putting this film out, I think, in summer 1955; well anyway it was stopped before ITV started in September 1955 and when this happened the black letters BBC appeared in and around the letter C on Test Card C. Only the white C appeared until just before ITV started. [Has anyone got this? Answers to the editor please - we might arrange copies if the BBC agrees.]

* From Gary Platten, 2 Callerton Place, Craghead, Stanley, County Durham, DH9 6EJ:

I have a small collection of sets; my oldest one is a projection set from about 1949 which I acquired from our local rubbish tip! I usually call in once a week to see if anything interesting turns up. One particular week the attendant summoned me over to his shed and asked if I was interested in old radiograms as well as televisions. I must admit it looked like an old radiogram but it had three controls on the front, focus, brilliance and an on-off/volume knob. It also had a door on the other side of the controls which housed a projection tube and lens.

When I saw this I immediately asked how much he wanted for it, he replied "50p". So seeing a bargain, I bundled it into the car and brought it home. I checked everything was intact and then switched on. To my amazement it came on and produced a picture on the wall - blank of course, but nevertheless it worked. It has 'Decca' in gold lettering on the front below the controls, with a plate on the projection door saying 'Model 1000, projects 4' x 3' picture'. I would appreciate any information on this set from other readers and in particular if there was a screen of some kind to hang on the wall for the picture.

Some people have all the luck! But it shows that it is well worth cultivating the man at your local tip ...

* From Keith Wilson, Haddenham, Bucks.:

I have recently been reading a very interesting (but rather badly written) Americana book on the history of television. This makes the rather unexpected assertion that, in 1936, there was little difference in the sensitivity of the EMI Emitron and the Farnsworth Image Dissector, which was available to Baird. I wonder if anyone knows, therefore, why Baird made so little use of the latter device.

Good question. Was it Baird's obsession with non-electronic scanning systems or was it royalty payments? Can anyone enlighten us?

405 LINE TV IN IRELAND

It is all too easy to forget that the BBC and the ITA were not the only TV broadcasters in the British Isles; 405 line transmissions were also radiated for many years in the republic of Ireland. Radio Telefis Eireann (RTE) started TV broadcasting in 1961 with a Band III transmitter on the Kippure Mountain to the south-west of Dublin. It was announced that from the outset Ireland would adopt the 625 line system used in most of Europe. However, because of the large numbers of sets already in use in the north and east of the country for receiving British BBC and UTV programmes, the initial service was on 405 lines.

Following some early productions on 405 lines, programmes were originated in 625 lines, and image transfer standards converters were installed in Dublin. A solid-state converter was subsequently installed at the Kippure Mountain transmitter. From the outset there were more than 40 hours of programmes per week, more than half of which was home-produced material. The studios were 405/525/625 line-capable and designed to require minimum staffing levels. Standards conversion was afterwards carried out by vidicon cameras and monitors, and latterly one ex-BBC converter.

Transmitter sites

Main transmitters were established at Kippure (Dublin) and Truskmore (Sligo), with low power transposers at Fanad, Letterkenny and Merville, all in Co. Donegal. These transposers converted the received signals to another frequency at RF: technically they were not transmitters since they did not demodulate the video and audio signals. (There were almost certainly some other, illicit low power stations relaying BBC and ITA signals but we have no details of these!).

Closure dates for the foregoing are a bit hazy and RTE have been unable to provide full details. Known last transmissions were:

Kippure	31.1.79
Truskmore	27.8.78
Co. Donegal transposers ...	end of 1983 (?)

If anyone can fill in more details please let us know.

RTE do not appear to have retained any old equipment from the 405 era, at least as far as their museum collection is concerned, though their historian (Paddy Clarke, 01-696592) believes some may still be in store. A personal visit to RTE's Donnybrook headquarters might reveal more information!

DX reception in Britain

The transmissions on B7 were received regularly on the British mainland, at least as far as the south Midlands. I have spoken to two TV DXers about this and I'd welcome further reports. Ian Beckett (near Buckingham) says he used to

receive signals only during thick fogs in November, but his beam was aligned on Lille. James Burton-Stewart, in the same area, using a rotatable antenna used to receive signals at least 'in the noise' on a more or less daily basis.

PROGRAMME MATERIAL WHICH YOU CAN BUY

If you did not have the foresight to record 405 line material when it was 'on the air' how do you go about getting hold of vintage program material?

One way is to exchange with other collectors and so long as this is done on a proper basis I guess few people could object (even if it is technically 'wrong'). Obviously, if you have nothing to swap this will be difficult. Another method is to standards-convert 625 line programmes which were originally on 405 lines. Several of our members have standards converters which they will use to convert other people's material by arrangement, or you can do it yourself quite successfully by pointing a 405 line camera at a 625 line monitor or TV. Of course, you may just wish to renew your acquaintance with old programmes but on a normal 625 line TV.

Old programmes are broadcast on BBC and ITV from time to time, and Channel Four has made a habit of arranging 'vintage evenings' once a year. The broadcasters also revive old series from time to time. (There is a rumour that Channel Four will revive some ITC series such as *Robin Hood* and *Sir Lancelot* this autumn, also that BBC-2 will screen a definitive program on old TV commercials.)

Some old programmes are also available for £9.99 as pre-recorded tapes in the shops, for instance some 'classic' episodes of *Coronation Street* and the *Ready Steady Go* music programmes. Volume 3 of the latter even includes some dubbed-in old commercials and idents although they have not got these quite right. I have now bought *Coronation Street*, and was rather disappointed that it does not include the old Granada animated ident - it did when it was screened on ITV a few years ago but I did not record it then [*Did anyone else?*]. Among other cassettes you might considering adding to your collection are from BBC Enterprises, also at £9.99 each. They are *Watch with Mother* (relive Andy Pandy, Bill and Ben and all the other childhood favourites!), the TV version of *Quatermass and the Pit* and several of the *Hancock's Half Hour* comedy programmes. Of course these may not all be to your taste but they are worth mentioning. Are there any others that you would recommend? Why not let us know?

CHANNEL FOUR 'VINTAGE EVENINGS' BROADCAST SO FAR

The Cotton Collection (BBC programmes; the rest are ITV)

Fifties to the Fore

Granada in the Sixties

It was Twenty Years Ago Today

ITV Comedy Classics - The Sixties
Salute to ATV
Thirty Years of ITV

DAYS OUT

>>>> "AERIAL" SUMMER SWAP MEET

Not much time to catch this one! It's on Sunday June 18th at Clarence House, Portishead, near Bristol and admission is strictly by ticket only. Send a cheque for £1 (made out to G. Hanham), a SAE and your name and address and phone number to Geoff Hanham, P.O. Box 36, 14-16 Queensgate, Inverness, IV1 1AA. I quote from the leaflet: "Bill Journeaux will be bringing along a 405 line TV modulator, so there should be some excellent vintage TV viewing. if you have a vintage TV you are more than welcome to bring it along and try it out on the day!".

>>>> STACEY HILL OPEN WEEKENDS

If you are looking for a day out, you might like to consider a trip to Wolverton. The Stacey Hill Museum is an industrial and rural history museum at Wolverton (not Wolverhampton!), near Milton Keynes (close to the M1 motorway and A5 road). If you go on a Saturday you might care to combine the trip with a visit to Milton Keynes (largest undercover shopping centre in Europe) but then again, you might not!

Anyway, the collection is huge, ranging from old tractors and lawnmowers to railway coaches and steam tram relics; they have restorations of an old-time baker's, a dairy and a printer's shop, as well as stationary engines. Of particular interest to THG members will be a collection of old radios and TVs, also a lot of old telephone equipment. The dates are June 17/18, July 15/16 and September 16/17 and opening hours are 11.00 AM to 5.30 PM. A modest admission charge is made. The museum is in an old farm in Southern Way, Wolverton. If you make for Wolverton station or town centre, you will find the museum about 3/4 mile north east of here. It is not so easy to find the way from Milton Keynes itself, so I suggest you head for Wolverton and ask then!



TEST CARD TOPICS

Test Cards are a matter of perpetual interest to many readers, and from time to time we will print notes here on this subject.

* Several of you have bought copies of the BATC's video on the development of the television test card. During the research for this I interviewed a number of people who have been involved professionally with this subject. The following are some notes of 'interesting things' which did not really fit into the video but may yet interest people.

The Girl in the Hat is a colour photograph which was used extensively during the BBC's colour tests, in advertisements and even recently in user manuals for VCRs. It originated with the American SMPTE organisation, the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers. It was one of a series issued by them with the aim of letting engineers look for particular errors in the NTSC colour system. This picture was the most used of them.

By the time the BBC TV Centre opened at Wood Lane in the 1960s no-one thought of installing any monoscopes. As a source of test signals they were already considered out of date (though some ITV companies still continued to use them, for instance Rediffusion at Wembley). Many small studios at the BBC used caption cards for titles, so that you could use the camera for other things during the rest of the programme. Also, if there was a change you could get a graphic artist to draw a new caption. Otherwise, if you used slides, Photographic wanted three days to produce a photographic caption.

Malcolm Burrell points out that the **Experimental Colour Test Card** on the tape does not date from 1962 - instead he remembers seeing it used on the experimental transmissions around 1957. It was afterwards superseded by the 'Angels Wings' version of the tuning symbol with the colour picture of Sylvia Peters.

The **Reduced Power** apology slide was normally used at the transmitter sites [Sutton Coldfield, for instance, has a slide scanner but smaller stations used a vidicon camera and a diascope (illuminated slide projector)]. Obviously this was used only in emergencies. Most other apology captions were centrally generated. Originally these were produced by monoscopes but they were not considered very good. They ran very hot and you were restricted to whatever message was contained on the monoscope tube. For this reason the BBC did not use many monoscope cameras, which were considered obsolete there by the time test cards D and E came in.

Test Card F was an amazingly popular design: versions were produced for the all of the following:

BBC, IBA (Headquarters and each of the regional companies), CTVC [Churches TV Centre], University of Aberdeen, Marconi, RCA, Bahrein, Dubai UAE, Jordan TV, NRK [Norway], NZBC [New Zealand], SAS, Channel 10 [Sydney], TVW7 [Perth], Colorful 7, NBN3 [Newcastle], STW9 and TCN9 [Sydney]. A royalty of £5 was paid to the BBC on each copy made since the BBC paid for all the development work. Derivatives of Test Card F were used by Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore.

Test Card C Centering arrows were added to the outer castellations of this pattern, from July 1958.

Test Card D This was radiated by the BBC from 1.12.1965.

Test Card E This was radiated by the BBC from April 1964.

The **Modified SMPTE** pattern was used for UHF field trials between 5.11.62 and mid 1963.

Tuning Signals The first version of the "Angel's Wings" pattern, with a black centre, was radiated from 19.8.55. The centre was replaced with something which looked for all the world like a loudspeaker grille as of 16.6.56.

The RTS History and Archives Specialist Group have recently undertaken the task of trying to ascertain the whereabouts of artefacts of historic interest.

It is intended to catalogue such information for the benefit of students and researchers in times to come.

The obvious caretakers of obsolete apparatus such as Museums hardly need mention, but the Group is aware of private collections and will be most grateful to receive information as to the names and addresses of those willing to co-operate by listing any items as may be in their possession of particular interest.

It should be emphasised that the Society has no aspirations as to the acquisition of artefacts, but only wish to record such data for posterity.

Those able to contribute to this record, kindly communicate with the Honorary Secretary at Head Office.



* 'The girl in the hat'

* From the Royal Television Society (RTS) newsletter

The short article (above right) may interest some of us. If you get in touch with them please write to Clare Colvin, Consultant Archivist, Royal Television Society, Tavistock House East, Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9HR.

TELEVISION TOPICS

>>>> STANDARDS CONVERTERS. Several readers possess these magic machines. Philip Marrison has two, one digital and one analogue. The digital one was bought from Crystal Palace, where these beasts were repaired, and is not (yet) in working order. Restoration will probably take a while. Philip's analogue converter is a formidable affair of two full-height bays of 19" racks. It does indeed work but has some minor faults which Philip is gradually clearing. First job is to replace the 1960s-vintage electrolytic capacitors, one of the main causes of trouble with old equipment.

>>>> REFERENCE. Most 405 line TV collectors now have the five volume set of Newnes RADIO & TELEVISION SERVICING published in 1957. But well worth searching for is the two volume set published in 1952 which contains servicing information for over 100 televisions not covered in the later editions.

>>>> POOR MAN'S VARIAC. When applying mains power to an old device which has not been switched on for, say, 20 years the initial surge may well strain capacitors (I know, I have 'blown up' two cameras in this fashion!). The solution is to run up the voltage in stages, using a variable transformer or variac. Also any device containing a transformer should be 'dried out' by standing in a warm room for a week. If a variac is not to hand a substitute method is to run a 60 watt lamp bulb in series with the device for an hour, to give the electrolytics a chance to reform. It might even be worth screwing a 13 amp socket and a batten lamholder to a board for this purpose.

TELEVISION BOOKSHELF

THE FIRST 30 YEARS OF TELEVISION GRAPHICS By Keith Hamer and Garry Smith. (Paperback, 16 pages. Price not given, check with HS Publications, 7 Epping Close, Derby, DE3 4HR.)

Another fascinating book from the testcard team: this one is short but very comprehensive in its 16 pages. Well illustrated and well worth getting hold of if your interest lies in test cards and tuning signals. I hope they do something similar for ITV soon!

FANTASTIC TELEVISION By Gary Gerani and Paul H. Schulman. (Paperback, 192 pages, £7.95. Published by Titan Books and available from Virgin Records, MOMI, and booksellers.)

This book is subtitled "A pictorial history of sci-fi, the unusual and the fantastic from the 50s to the 70s" and covers TV series and made-for-TV movies both British and American. The cover features the aerials of Alexandra Palace (enough to make me buy it!) but do not let this fool you, it is basically an American book with some British material added. No problem though: it

covers 190 shows (with thumbnail synopses of each episode) and is illustrated with 350 photos. So if *The Avengers*, *Batman*, *Star Trek*, *The Prisoner* and *The Twilight Zone* are your thing, this book is for you! It is a good value-for-money summary but don't expect any very deep insights - there are much more detailed studies of many of these cult shows at specialist bookshops (e.g. MOMI in London).

CULT TV By John Javna (Paperback, 256 pages, £8.95. Published by St Martin's Press, New York. Available from Mega City, 18 Inverness Street, London, NW1 7HJ. Tel: 01-485 9320.)

A similar book to the foregoing and subtitled a viewer's guide to the shows America can't live without. More than 75 shows are covered, in a less superficial way than in *Fantastic TV*. There seems to be more hard-core trivia for fans, too. For instance why was Emma Peel so called in *The Avengers*? Answer: an in-joke by the series' producers who wanted to give the programme m. appeal or man appeal! What was the distance between the Bat Cave and Gotham City? 14 miles ... of course you remembered! Highly recommended.

THE ITV ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ADVENTURE By Dave Rogers. (Paperback, 594 pages, £9.95. Published by Boxtree Ltd for ITV Publications Ltd.)

Over 3,200 entries of British-produced TV series transmitted on ITV since 1955. More than 5,400 episodes of your favourite adventure, thriller, spy and sci-fi programmes. Cast lists, transmission dates, etc. etc., all written by one of TV's most accomplished chroniclers. What more can I say?!?

BBC TV TEST CARD MUSIC - a personal view in three Parts
by PAUL SAWTELL A.M.B.I.I. M.P.A.

Part one - the fifties and carly sixties.

I can honestly say that BBC Trade Test Transmissions have been the single most powerful influence on my life; it all started for me in 1962 when I was just three years old and used to watch the Schools programmes on BBCTV. When the programmes finished for the morning this funny black & white pattern appeared on the screen. It didn't move, but it sure made some lovely noises! I was immediately hooked on Test Card Music for life!

I should perhaps say at this stage why I am not including ITA test card music in these articles. As they used commercially available records it was quite possible to nip down to the local shop and buy them; not so in the case of the BBC tapes. These were compiled from 'library' music publishers. Library music in

this context means music recorded outside the country in which it is to be broadcast and NOT available to the general public. Therefore the BBC music was otherwise unobtainable and to me therefore, very special. Almost every style of music imaginable (plus some unimaginable!) has been featured over the years, possibly the only exceptions are opera and contemporary classical - such as the music of Stockhausen. It has all had a great effect on my career to as a professional musician; the musical arrangements on the whole were absolutely first class and being exposed to this at an early age meant that time was not wasted on the more banal aspects of pop music. The music used in the early fifties actually came from 78 rpm records rather than tape compilations; although I was not around at the time due to an oversight on my parents' part I do have some recordings of these records as well as the 'Programme as Broadcast' lists from 1953 - 1957 which gives details of everything used at that time.

Most of the records were BBC library or ORIOLE discs and there was a considerable amount of Cuban influenced stuff, many tracks with vocals! Also featured were many fine classical works such as the *Hungarian Dances* by Brahms; *Symphony no. 1* by Weber; *La Clemenza di Tito* by Mozart etc etc. In fact, the first actual tapes came into service in September 1955. Some of these ran for some forty minutes whereas others were only a little over a quarter of a hour. With the introduction of later tapes in January 1957 came the famous BBC signal (the musical notes B, B and C) every one, two, three or four tracks. In those days each tape began with the BBC signal followed by a 5 second pause before the music began.

Again, what made the trade test music so special was the tremendous variety of material used, from Beethoven's *German Dances* to Van Heusen's *Darn That Dream* to a little oddity called *Scrub, Brothers, Scrub!* A chap by the name of Ken Warner was responsible for that one; We even had a piece with dog barks in it in 1964/65! Called *La Gavroche*, I am at a loss to understand what the connection is between a Parisian Urchin and dogs barking! Maybe someone can help??

1963 was quite an important year as two tapes compiled for the national network were distributed to the BBC regional centres where they enjoyed a long period of usage for regional trade test transmissions up to 1971 when they were finally discontinued. These were really super tapes; one began with the Ray Jack Group playing *Bugle Call Rag*, also on this tape was *Mack the Knife*, *12th St. Rag*, a jazz piano trio playing *Clementine* (Leo Chauliac & Rhythm) and *Fools Rush In*. The other opened with four rather be-boppy numbers by Bobby Gutesha starting with the slightly dissonant *Binokel*. This tape featured one of the very few vocals since the tapes were brought into service with a number called *Rio Cha Cha Cha*. Again we had some lovely classical tapes as well as a good mixture of light and novelty numbers. Throughout the history of trade test tapes the compiler has always appeared to have a good sense of humour - apart from dogs barking there was a hilarious arrangement of the fifties hit *When* by the Kalin Twins. Add together a slightly out-of-tune violin, a wonky baritone sax and an outrageous sense of fun and you have a real treat. There were two other tracks on this same tape which sounded a bit like the Temperance Seven (I know it was not actually them) but sadly I do not have any information other than the possibility that the one piece is called *Charleston Parisienne* and that they are BOTH a scream! It is of course impossible to mention everything in three short articles but I would like to say that I warmly welcome any correspondence from any others interested in the subject; also anyone who has any

recordings may like to get in touch with a view to swapping some material. Write to me at 20 Seymour Road, Stourbridge, DY9 8TB. The next article will cover the period 1964 - 1972 when there were some great changes. Bye for now.

NOTES AND QUERIES

1. Apart from in the British Isles, was the 405 line system used anywhere else, for broadcasting or any other purpose?

* When I visited Hong Kong at the end of 1972 I was surprised to find a 405 line TV in the hotel. At that time two 405 line channels were distributed around the colony using a Rediffusion cable system only. There were also two different off-air channels using the 625 line PAL system I on UHF, as in the UK. Dual standard cable/aerial sets were available. When I next returned in 1978 the Rediffusion system had closed down and all four channels were on 625 off-air in colour. [Gareth Foster]

3. Towards the end of 405 line transmissions picture and sound quality tended to get very 'variable'. Would anyone like to say exactly what happened?

* There was 'variable' reception here (Loughton, Essex) but only on one channel. The BBC-1 Crystal Palace transmissions remained perfect right up to the end, but on ITV Croydon, many times when I switched to channel 9, I got a blank raster but the sound was still there. I remember on one occasion there was a picture, but after a minute it just faded out, leaving the sound only. I think I read in *Television* it was their standards converter failing. [Keith Rann]

* The final years of 405 lines certainly saw some very variable standards. I moved house in December 1981 and it was some six months before the house was organised enough for me to get around to switching on a 405 set. When I did I found a strong ghost on ITV (channel 9, Croydon). No amount of adjusting the aerial (left in the loft by the previous occupants) helped, so a visit was made to the roof. The Crystal Palace mast was visible some 14 miles distant but Croydon was hidden behind a building about five miles away. I assumed this was the problem. It wasn't until near the closedown some two and a half years later that I took a set and VCR to my mother's house (where I knew the signals were clean) to make some recordings, that I realised that the ghost was being transmitted and that it must have happened during the six months after I moved. I phoned the IBA who thought it highly unlikely that they would transmit a ghost but checked anyway and were surprised to find that they were doing. As it was only a few days to closedown not much was done about it.

The BBC tx at Crystal Palace was also poor near the end. About six months before closedown there was a humbar running through the picture. Several phone calls to the BBC had no effect until I got hold of the ex-directory number at the transmitter and phoned one evening. It was fixed the same day. Around a fortnight before the end about every fourth line of the picture was slightly

brighter than the others. A phone call to the transmitter again and they switched over to the standby converter, then rapidly back again as there was then a massive hum bar, so we can assume that the original fault was not fixed. To give them their due, it was sorted out in a day or two. [Gareth Foster]

* In the last weeks of 405, signals here at Northampton were too weak and noisy to record. So I had to take my equipment up to London to make my recordings there. Even then, the BBC signals were so bad as to be not worth recording! [Andy Emmerson]

6. Has anyone got any 819 line recordings? I had a short one once on VHS but erased it accidentally, and there was never a good enough lift for me to make another one before it closed down. Although I don't have an 819 line receiver I can screw the horizontal hold far enough on my Murphy V849 to lock it. 405 line sets can also display 819 as two tall narrow pictures side by side. I wonder if there are any 819 enthusiasts in France/Belgium and if so, whether they would be interested in joining us as a renamed 405/819 line Group. Just a thought. [Gareth Foster]

* And a good one. I asked a leading French TV-DXer but he replied he knew of no-one who had recorded 819 line programmes. I know a TV-DXer in Suusex who had a French model Philips N1500 VCR which was intended for both 819 and 625 line recording, but I have no idea if he recorded Lille on channel F8a. I used to watch it from time to time on a Sony TV112UM quad-standard portable (625 CCIR, 625 Belgian, 625 French and 819 lines!). I wonder if our French and Belgian friends went to the same trouble to watch 405 line TV. [AE]

7. CCIR Report 308 of 1963 allocated a VHF channel 14 to Britain. Was it ever used? What was its intended purpose?

>>>> Any answers? Any questions? Send your response or enquiry to the editor now (71 Falcutt Way, Northampton, NN2 8PH. Tele: 0604 - 844130)!

STRANGE BUT TRUE

London to Brighton in Four Minutes, made by the BBC Film Unit in 1952, was a favourite of my childhood. In those days one never knew when it would be screened, but it often popped up when there was an unscheduled gap between programmes. (Those were the days of intermissions and interludes!). Luckily, it has been repeated on BBC-TV several times recently. Apparently the journey on the Brighton Belle was filmed at 2 frames per second (fps). Thus at the normal projection speed of 24 fps a speed of 60 mph becomes 720 mph. Some people say there were two versions of this film - can anyone confirm and explain? That is ignoring the

subsequent remakes of this classic film.

Incidentally, this film set the pace for several others in the same genre. First came *London to Brighton at (?) 500 MPH* (I cannot quite remember the speed), which was a colour film sold on the 8mm format by Walton Films. I guess this was made during the 1960s. British Transport Films made *Let's Go to Birmingham* (Paddington-Birmingham in five minutes) and more recently *Inter City 1250* (Kings Cross-Peterborough at 1250 mph!). Also in recent times, the BBC remade *London to Brighton* but showed only sections of it, interleaved with the original, classic version.

FEEDBACK

* From Philip Marrison:

You mentioned the two ex-Sutton Coldfield transmitters now in perservation. These were not part of the original installation, but very low power replacements run on a main and standby basis (turned on by time-switches: I seem to remember, set not to transmit Breakfast Time!). These were fitted to allow the original Band I hall to be ripped out and re-equipped as the Band II hall.

Another transmitter in preservation - well, part of it at least - is at Bradford in the National Museum of Film, Photography and Television. I think this was ex-A.P. (BBC-ese for Alexandra Palace; C.P. is Crystal Palace).

* From John Trenouth, National Museum of Photography, Film & Television (Bradford):

Yorkshire TV's cameras were 625 lines from the start. When the station opened the cameras were Marconi Mk 7 (four tube) colour ones, used in monochrome. All tubes were fited in fact, but a mirror put all the light down the luminance channel. Soon afterwards they started producing programmes in colour, though only a monochrome signal left the studios. Initially the 625 line signal was converted to 405 lines using an on-site converter. With the coming of the public 625 line service the standards converter was moved to Emley Moor. (This converter is now in the Bradford museum, though making it work will be a labour of love. Any volunteers?). PS: within the next 2 to 3 years we hope to mount a number of temporary (3 months) exhibitions relating to television.

* From Stephen Ostler (Radiocraft), Sedgeberrow, near Evesham.

I was interested to read Keith Hamer's article 'Farewell 405 Lines' in the first issue of '405 Alive' and perhaps could add a little detail to the story of the closedown.

The vintage set shown during the final seconds of the Crystal Palace transmission was in fact a 1938 Baird T18. It didn't belong to the BBC, but to Canadian enthusiast Terry Harvey - who was also working at Lime Grove at the time. Those with video recordings of the event will have noticed that the state of its tube's cathode (visible from the switch-off spot) left something to be desired! The c.r.t.'s heater also had a nasty habit of going open circuit unless the heck was regularly tapped ! Nevertheless the set gave high fidelity pictures although a little dim. It wasn't particularly sensitive, in fact it is the only set I have come across that would happily accept the full 50mV from a modulator without overloading! These days the set has retired to the U.S.A., where it is part of a large collection.

However this set was nearly never seen at all. Crystal Palace had in fact been shut down earlier in the evening to round off a 'closedown party' being held on the premises. Previously though I had obtained a written memo from the senior transmitter manager there that shut-down would definitely take place at the end of programmes. Following a frantic phone call - waving the 'little piece of paper'- the station was opened up again, only to close down again a few hours later!

Now I am safely out of the BBC, maybe I can add a postscript to the account of 405 lines on UHF. For back in 1969, whilst working at Network Control, I punched up 405 line Test Card D on the vision mixer for BBC2. I had previously - through the simple expedient of pushing-in both band selector buttons - adjusted the Sony off-air monitor to receive UHF with its timebase running at 405. The 405 line test card came over clear as a bell from Crystal Palace ch.33! The entire 625 transmission chain was equally happy on 405!

May I finish by mentioning that, if an appointment is made, members of 405 Alive are welcome to use the ex-BBC Digital Standards Converter installed here - and to view my two working pre-war sets (among others) should they so desire. Please also accept my best wishes for the future of the Group!

I have one of those Sony TV9-90 sets too: it is an excellent compact dual-standard receiver. Anyone wishing to take up Stephen's kind offer should call him on 0386-881988. His business, Radiocraft (located near Evesham), restores old radio, audio and video equipment to a very high standard. [AE]

* From Electronic Maintenance, London Weekend Television:

The OXO colour simulation apparatus was devised by someone called Eric Ainley, at the old ATV studios in Foley Street (London). He is now retired, possibly to the USA, and we have been unable to track him down. The image was produced on an EMI flying spot scanner and used alternate fields to make it flicker. This scanner was also used for commercials.

* From Keith Rann:

Frank Peplow's article on page 9 of the last newsletter is slightly incorrect. On Test Card D, the *BBC1* was *black* letters in *four* little *white* blocks. Line 4 of

the last paragraph should read "Then followed a bit of silence followed by another *piece of music*, not another tape. The next sentence is incorrect, except that what he says about the tone only applied in the mornings. In the afternoon the whole tape of 30 minutes length was played, and when it had finished there was a long silence while it was being rewound and then another one was put on. In London, the transmitter used to opt out at about 3.45 PM to show colour films for experimental purposes, rejoining the other stations with Test Card about 4.30 PM.

* From Steve James:

Frank Peplow's article was of particular interest: at the end he mentions the BBC1 globe of old. Does anyone know when the famous rotating globe was first used by the BBC, and how many versions appeared through the sixties. I know it had changed to more or less its last form by 1969 to accommodate colour (I think it was coloured completely blue). Does anyone know if the original globe(s) still exist in any museum or so forth anywhere or if they were consigned to the great BBC bin?

* Correction: a line of text was lost on the foot of page 13 last time. The item should have read as follows.

* You may remember the magnifying screens which some people bought to make their 9" pictures look bigger, but do you also recall the colour screens advertised by mail order in the daily papers on Saturdays? They were derided by *Which?* when tested by the Consumers Association but some viewers seemed to love them! They were a piece of transparent plastic film applied over the TV screen, tinted blue at the top, pink in the middle and green at the bottom. They were intended to give a 'natural' look to your viewing!

..oooOooOooo..

MEMORY LANE - do you remember this?!?



REFERENCE SECTION

ITV Companies

ABC Television
North and Midlands weekends
First transmission: 17 February 1956
Last transmission: 27 July 1968
Combined with Rediffusion to form Thames.

Anglia Television
East of England
First transmission: 27 October 1959

ATV Network
Midlands
Until July 1968 Midlands weekdays, London weekends
First transmission: 22 September 1955
Name changed from Associated Broadcasting Company to Associated TeleVision in October 1955. Current name dates from July 1967 and is to be changed from January 1982.

Border Television
The Borders and the Isle of Man
First transmission: 1 September 1961

Channel Television
The Channel Islands
First transmission: 1 September 1962

Grampian Television
North-East Scotland
First transmission: 30 September 1961

Granada Television
Lancashire
Until July 1968 the North (Lancashire and Yorkshire) weekdays
First transmission: 3 May 1956

Harlech Television
Wales and West of England
First transmission: 4 March 1968

London Weekend Television
London weekends
First transmission: 2 August 1968

Rediffusion Television
London weekdays
First transmission: 22 September 1955
Last transmission: 29 July 1968
Name changed from Associated-Rediffusion in July 1964.
Combined with ABC to form Thames.

Scottish Television
Central Scotland
First transmission: 31 August 1957

Southern Television
South of England
First transmission: 30 August 1958
Last transmission: December 1981

Thames Television
London weekdays
First transmission: 30 July 1968
Formed from ABC and Rediffusion.

TWW
Wales and West of England
First transmission: 14 January 1958
Last transmission: 3 March 1968
Wales (West and North) Television became a subsidiary in 1964.

Tyne Tees Television
North-East England
First transmission: 15 January 1959

Ulster Television
Northern Ireland
First transmission: 31 October 1959

Westward Television
South-West England
First transmission: 29 April 1961
Last transmission: December 1981

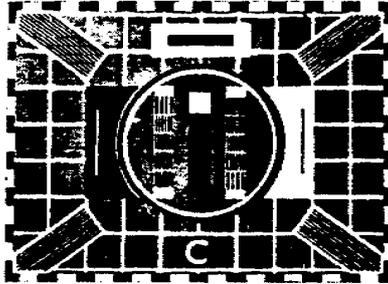
Yorkshire Television
Yorkshire
First transmission: 29 July 1968

Next page: a selection of monoscope tubes made by Cathodeon Ltd.

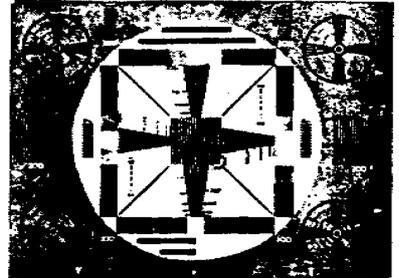
CATHODEON



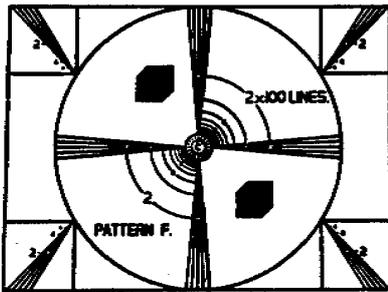
~~PATTERN~~
OBSOLETE



'C' PATTERN

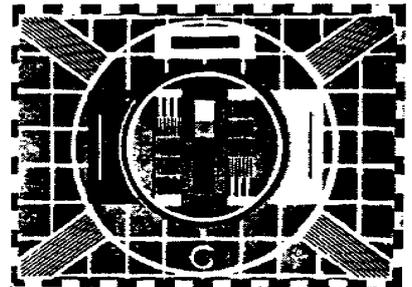


~~D PATTERN~~
REPLACED BY CURRENT
R.E.T.M.A. PATTERN.



~~F PATTERN~~
OBSOLETE

STANDARD PATTERNS



'G' PATTERN.



*Normal Service
will be resumed as
soon as possible*

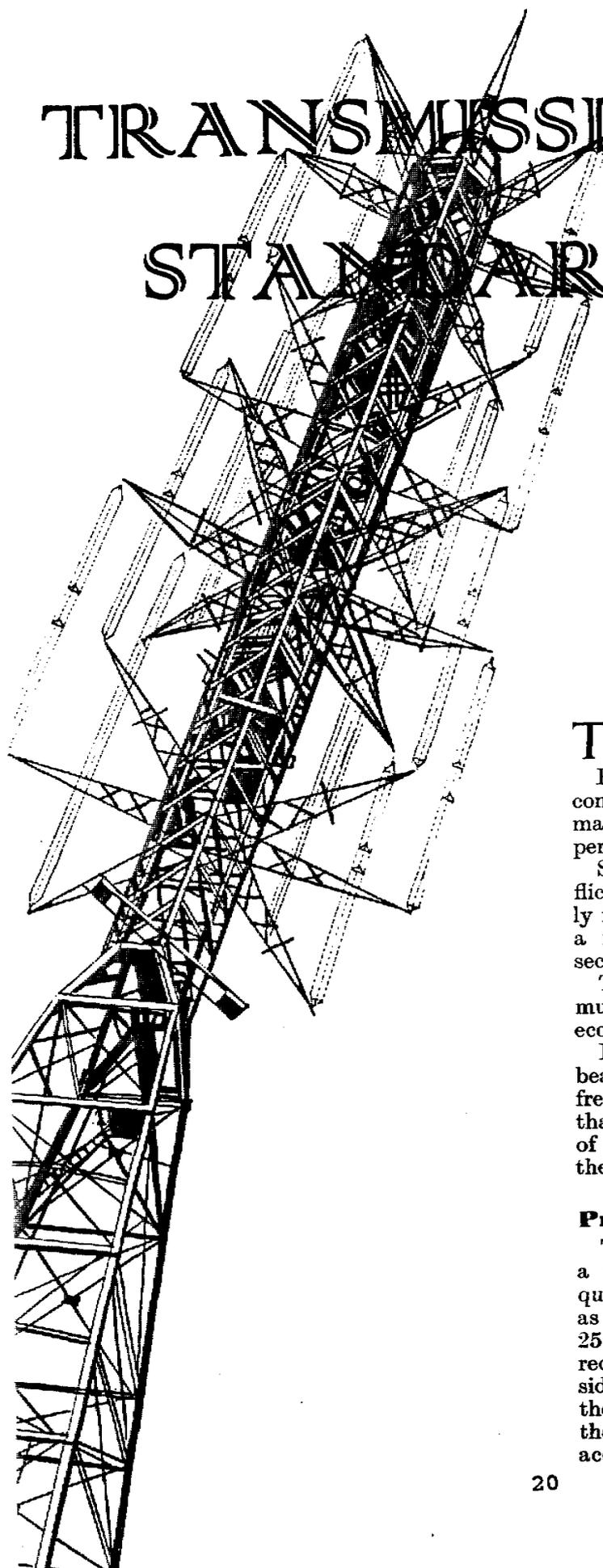


The above examples of special patterns produced to the users' requirements indicate some of the possibilities of this service.

CATHODEON LTD

MEADOWCROFT LABORATORIES · CHURCH ST. · CAMBRIDGE · ENGLAND

TRANSMISSION STANDARDS



The choice of picture repetition frequency is governed by four considerations.

Firstly, it must be sufficiently great to convey movement satisfactorily; this demands the transmission of 20 to 30 pictures per second.

Secondly, there must be no appreciable flicker on the receiver screen, when adequately illuminated. This consideration demands a repetition frequency of about 50 per second.

Thirdly, the picture repetition frequency must be kept as low as possible in order to economise in transmission bandwidth.

Fourthly, the repetition frequency should bear some simple relation to the mains supply frequency, in order that it may be locked to that frequency and thus minimise the effect of residual hum in receivers operated from the supply mains.

Principle of Interlaced Scanning

The first of the above considerations sets a minimum for the picture repetition frequency, and in the Marconi-E.M.I. system as standardised in Great Britain it is set at 25 per second. The conflict between the requirements of the second and third considerations is resolved by the adoption of the principle of interlaced scanning, whereby the scanning of each complete picture is accomplished by means of two interlaced

traversals. By this means the frequency of presentation on the receiver screen, or "frame frequency" of the system, is 50 per second and the flicker effect is completely eliminated.

London Television Station Standards

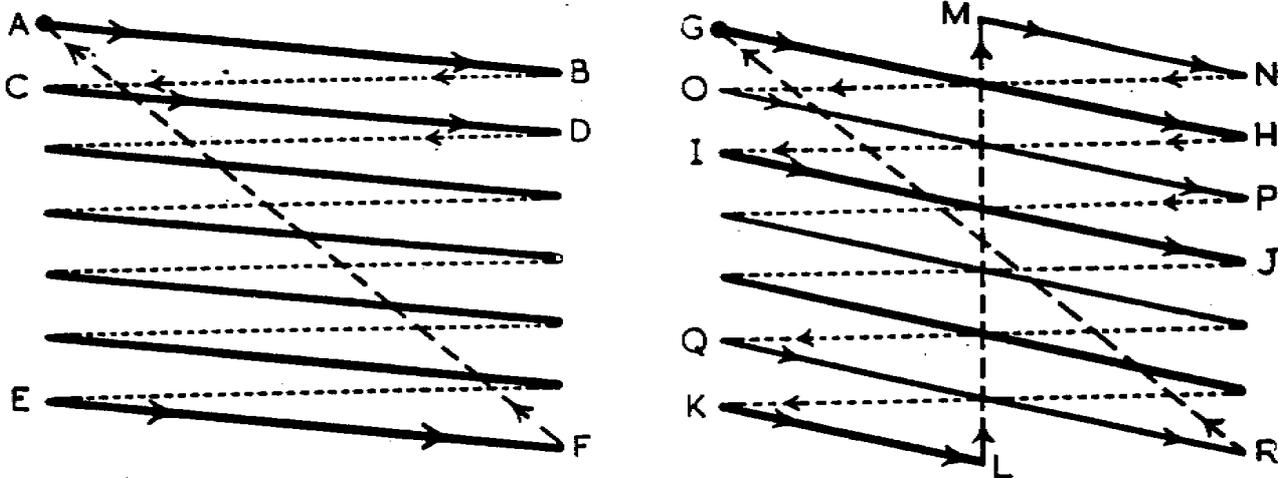
The significant figures, 25 pictures and 50 frames per second, were chosen with regard to the fourth consideration, since the frequency of the supply mains in this country is 50 cycles per second. The Marconi-E.M.I. system is, however, perfectly flexible in this

Experience has shown the transmitted picture to be of very good entertainment value, and the 1943 Commission recommends the resumption and extension of the service without modification.

Nevertheless, the system is capable of higher definition, and the Company is prepared to supply equipment adapted for the transmission of pictures with a line definition of the order of 600.

The vision signals to be transmitted represent from instant to instant the point to point brightness of the image of the scene

THE PRINCIPLE OF INTERLACED SCANNING



The essential difference between the method of sequential scanning and the Marconi-E.M.I. system of interlaced scanning is illustrated in these simplified comparative diagrams of just a few lines. In sequential scanning (left) the spot traces the picture line by line from A to F and then flies back to A to commence another complete frame. By causing the spot to interlace as shown, starting from G, in the right hand diagram, two complete traversals are made to each frame. This enables flicker to be completely eliminated with maximum economy in transmission bandwidth, as explained in the text.

respect, and in the event of a service being required in a territory where the mains supply frequency is other than 50 cycles per second, these standards would be suitably modified. For example, if the supply is at 60 cycles per second the corresponding figures chosen would be 30 pictures and 60 frames per second.

The Marconi-E.M.I. system employs uni-directional constant-velocity scanning, the lines being traced horizontally. The vertical definition available is proportional to the number of lines per complete picture, and equal horizontal definition is ensured by careful circuit design.

The 1935 Television Committee recommended a 405-line system for the London Television Station, and this standard has proved eminently satisfactory in practice.

being transmitted, as this image is scanned in the Emitron camera or film scanning unit. The instantaneous signal may have any amplitude between a value representing black and a value representing the brightest part of the picture, or "peak white." The signals are liable to change with extreme rapidity, and essentially contain all frequencies down to zero; they lie on one side of the datum level, which is black.

Constant Amplitude Synchronising Signals

Synchronising signals are transmitted in the intervals between the vision signals of successive lines and frames. They take the form of rectangular pulses suitable for the accurate timing of the scanning circuits of receivers, and are comparable in sharpness with the vision signals. They lie on the side

of the datum opposite to the vision signals, and do not appear upon the receiver screen.

It is an essential feature of the Marconi-E.M.I. system that the black level is rigidly maintained at a definite fraction of peak carrier amplitude, irrespective of the proportion of black to white in the televised scene. Constant amplitude synchronising signals are transmitted on one side of this datum, and vision signals of amplitude corresponding to instantaneous brightness on the other, the amplitude of "peak white" signals being constant. No wander is possible, and the transmitter is operated at maximum efficiency. Furthermore, the fixing of the black level ensures absolute reliability of signal separation at the receiver.

"Peak White" and Synchronising Ratio

The ratio of the amplitude of "peak white" signal to the amplitude of synchronising signal is fixed at 7 to 3, and the carrier may be modulated in the positive or negative direction. In the case of positive modulation, the black level is fixed at 30 per cent peak carrier and the vision signals extend upwards, reaching 100 per cent carrier at "peak white," whilst the synchronising signals extend downwards to zero carrier. In the

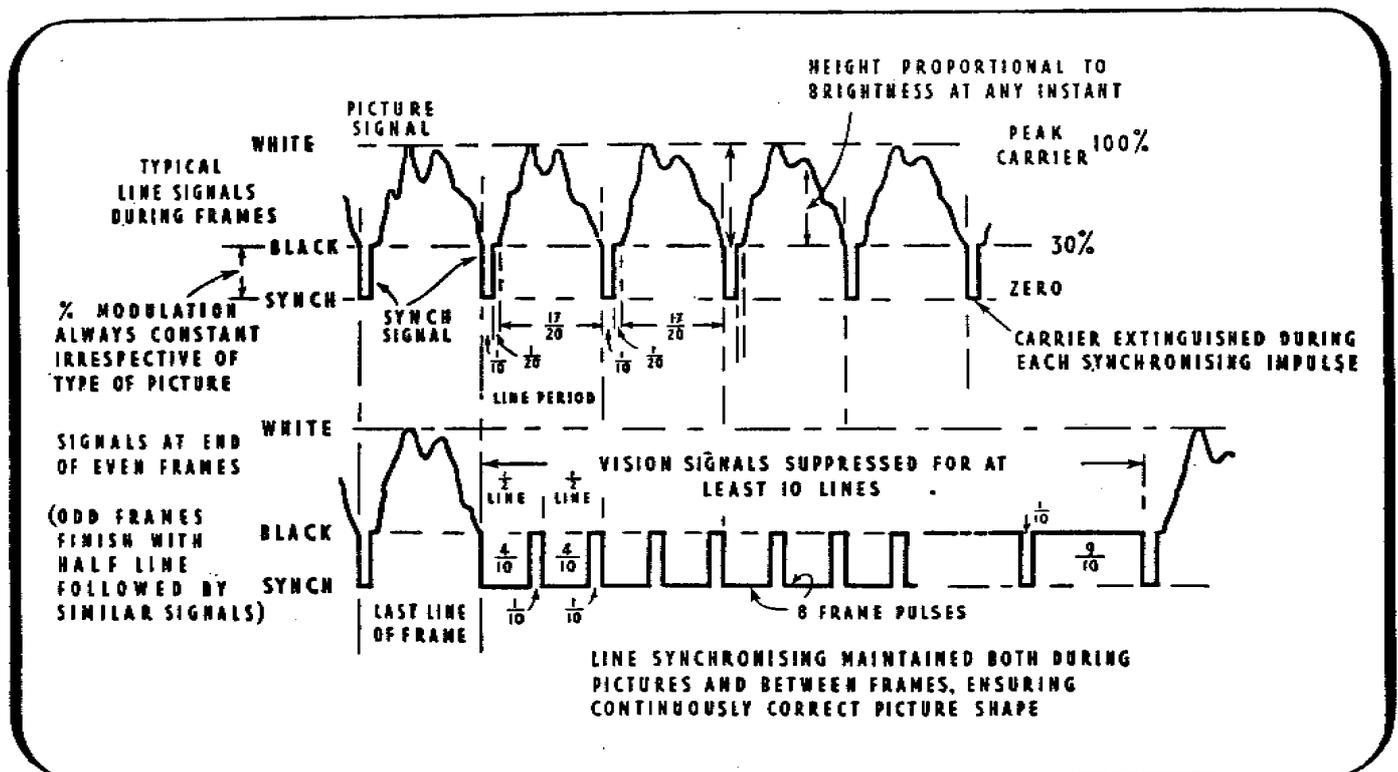
case of negative modulation, the black level is fixed at 75 per cent peak carrier and the synchronising signals extend upwards to 100 per cent carrier, whilst the vision signals extend downwards, reaching substantially zero carrier at "peak white."

System of Modulation employed

The system of positive modulation has the advantage that the amplitude of the synchronising signal cannot be increased by spark interference, and the scanning of receivers of the simplest design is therefore not disturbed. On the other hand, the interference appears on the screen in the form of white flashes. In the case of negative modulation, the interference cannot produce flashes of excessive brightness, but it is liable to cause breaking-up of the picture due to the production of synchronising pulses of excessive amplitude unless limiting circuits are incorporated in the receiver, the complexity of which is therefore increased.

The system of positive modulation was chosen for the London Television Station in the interests of simplicity and cheapness in receiver design, but in cases where this is not a prime consideration, negative modulation may be preferred in view of the reduction in the effect of interference which it offers to the viewer.

A TYPICAL TELEVISION TRANSMITTED WAVEFORM



THE E.M.I. RESEARCH LABORATORIES AT HAYES, MIDDLESEX, ENGLAND



The E.M.I. Research Laboratories at Hayes, Middlesex, England, from which the first high-definition, high-power television transmissions were made. The television aerial seen in the centre of the picture was the forerunner of the mast and aerial array now installed on the roof of the London Television Station and was used for many of the experiments which preceded the inauguration of a public television service.

* The fascinating picture on the previous page shows the research block and aerial tower at EMI's Hayes plant: both survived the war. The laboratories were demolished a few years ago but the top section of the tower (complete with aircraft warning light) is preserved in the research block's car park at Hayes.



A once familiar sight, the Rediffusion clock known fondly as 'Mitch' after Leslie Mitchell, who presented the opening ceremonial on ITV's first night.

405 LINE TRANSMITTERS

It may be useful to have a complete list of frequency and channel allocations: please write in if you spot any errors or omissions in the following lists.

For the United Kingdom two lists are given, 1966 and 1982. The latter is the more complete but does not include some older and temporary stations mentioned in the earlier list.

B.B.C. V.H.F. Television Transmitters

(405-line System)

Station	Channel	Polarization	E.R.P.	Opening Date
Ashkirk (S.E. Scotland) (relay) ..	1	V	18.5 kW*	June 17, 1963
Aldeburgh (relay)	5	V	—	—
Ayr (relay)	—	—	—	—
Ballachulish	2	V	110 W*	March 18, 1963
Ballater (relay)	—	—	—	—
Ballycastle (relay)	4	H	46 W*	—
Barnstaple (relay)	3	H	194 W*	1966
Bath (relay)	6	H	85 W*	1966
Bedford (relay)	10	H	490 W*	1966
Belmont (relay)	13	V	20 kW*	Spring 1966
Bexhill (relay)	3	H	150 W*	1966
Blaen-plwyf (W. Wales)	3	H	3 kW*	April 29, 1957
Bodmin (relay)	5	H	—	—
Bressay (relay)	3	V	6 kW*	April 15, 1964
Brighton (Whitehawk Hill) ..	2	V	400 W*	Truleigh Hill May 9, 1953 on Channel 3; Channel 2 November 12 1954. Permanent station at new site August 5, 1959.
Brougher Mountain (relay) ..	5	V	6.8 kW*	February 24, 1964
Bude (relay)	4	V	10 W	—
Campbeltown (relay)	—	—	—	—
Cambridge (relay)	2	H	100 W*	March 7, 1966
Canterbury (relay)	5	V	30 W*	June 29, 1964
Cardigan (relay)	2	H	—	—
Carmarthen (relay)	1	V	22 W*	March 15, 1965
Churchdown Hill (relay)	1	H	250 W*	November 29, 1965
Crystal Palace	1	V	200 kW	Alexandra Palace, November 2, 1936; closed September 1, 1939. Reopened June 7, 1946; replaced by Crystal Palace, March 28, 1956.
Divis (Belfast)	1	H	12 kW	July 21, 1955.
Dolgellau (relay)	4	H	—	—
Douglas (Isle of Man)	5	V	2.8 kW*	Temporary, December 20, 1953. Permanent, December 12, 1957.
Dundee Law (relay)	2	V	9 W*	July 13, 1964.
Eastbourne (relay)	5	V	50 W*	December 16, 1963.
Folkestone (relay)	4	H	35 W*	July 14, 1958.
Forfar (Angus) (relay)	5	V	5.3 kW*	July 13, 1964.
Fort William (relay)	5	H	1.6 kW	February 28, 1963.
Girvan (relay)	4	H	—	—
Grantown (relay)	1	H	380 W*	February 8, 1965
Hastings (relay)	4	H	14 W*	December 14, 1960
Haverfordwest (Pembs.) (relay) ..	4	H	10 kW*	February 15, 1964.
Hereford (relay)	2	H	50 W*	September 14, 1964.
Holme Moss (Huddersfield)	2	V	100 kW	October 12, 1951
Holyhead (relay)	4	H	10.6 W*	March 9, 1964.
Kendal (Westmorland) (relay) ..	1	H	26 W*	1966.
Kilkeel (relay)	—	—	—	—
Kingussie (relay)	—	—	—	—

*Directional Aerials. E.R.P. = effective radiated power. V = vertical. H = horizontal.

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	Channel	Sound (Mc/s)	Vision (Mc/s)
Band I	1	41-50	45-00
	2	48-25	51-75
	3	53-25	56-75
	4	58-25	61-75
	5	63-25	66-75
Band III	6	176-25	179-75
	7	181-25	184-75
	8	186-25	189-75
	9	191-25	194-75
	10	196-25	199-75
	11	201-25	204-75
	12	206-25	209-75
	13	211-25	214-75

Continued on next page

B.B.C. V.H.F. Television Transmitters

Station	Channel	Polarization	E.R.P.	Opening Date
Kinlochleven (relay)	1	V	5 W*	April 8, 1963.
Kirk o' Shotts (S. Scotland)	3	V	100 kW	Temporary, March 14, 1952. Permanent August 17, 1952.
Larne (Co. Antrim) (relay)	3	H	50 W*	April 5, 1965.
Les Platons (Channel Isles)	4	H	1 kW	October 3, 1955.
Llandona (Anglesey)	1	V	5.8 kW*	May 15, 1962.
Llandrindod Wells (relay)	1	H	1.3 kW	December 4, 1961.
Llangollen (relay)	—	—	—	—
Llanidloes (relay)	—	—	—	—
Lochgilthead (relay)	—	—	—	—
Londonderry	2	H	1.5 kW*	December 18, 1957
Machynlleth (Mont) (relay)	5	H	50 W*	June 28, 1965.
Manningtree (relay)	4	H	4.8 kW*	May 22, 1962.
Meldrum (Aberdeen)	4	H	17 kW*	Temporary (Redmoss), December, 1954. Permanent, October 12, 1955.
Melvaig	4	V	27.4 kW*	April 26, 1965.
Moel-y-Parc	6	V	21 kW*	October 28, 1965.
Morcombe Bay (Stewnor Park) (relay)	3	H	5.15 kW*	December 3, 1962.
Newry (Co. Down) (relay)	4	V	29 W*	March 15, 1965.
North Hessary Tor (S. Devon)	2	V	15 kW*	Temporary December 17, 1954; increased power February 15, 1956. Permanent May 22, 1956.
Northampton (relay)	3	V	85 W*	1966.
Oban (relay)	4	V	3 kW*	June 22, 1963.
Okehampton (Devon) (relay)	4	V	7 W*	July 13, 1964.
Orkney	5	V	14 kW*	Temporary December 22, 1958. Permanent December 17, 1959.
Oxford (relay)	2	H	640 W*	January 29, 1962.
Penifilar (Skye) (relay)	1	H	26.5 W*	April 11, 1966.
Perth (relay)	4	V	25 W*	October 26, 1964.
Peterborough (Morborne Hill)	5	H	1 kW	October 5, 1959.
Pitlochry (relay)	1	H	212 W*	December 21, 1964.
Pontop Pike (Newcastle)	5	H	17 kW	Temporary May 1, 1953. Permanent November 15, 1955.
Portrush (relay)	5	H	—	—
Redruth (W. Cornwall) (relay)	1	H	10 kW*	February 26, 1962.
Rosemarkie (N. Scotland)	2	H	20 kW*	August 16, 1957. Increased power March 5, 1962 and October 14, 1963.
Rowridge (I. of W.)	3	V	97 kW*	Temporary November 12, 1954. Permanent June 11, 1956. Increased power September 5, 1960 and December 4, 1961.
Sandale (Carlisle) (North)	4	H	28 kW*	Temporary November 5, 1956. Permanent December 9, 1957.
Sandale (Carlisle) (Scottish)	6	H	70 kW*	September 27, 1965.
Scarborough (relay)	1	H	520 W*	March 8, 1965.
Scilly Isles (relay)	—	—	—	—
Sheffield (relay)	1	H	50 W	Temporary May 24, 1960. Full power December 19, 1960.
Skegness (relay)	1	H	59 W	August 8, 1963.
Skriaig (Skye) (relay)	3	H	11.7 kW*	March 14, 1966.
Sutton Coldfield	4	V	100 kW	December 17, 1949.
Swindon (relay)	3	H	170 W*	November 5, 1962.
Swingate (Dover)	2	V	1.4 kW*	Temporary April 21, 1958. Full power February, 1961.
Tacolneston (Norwich)	3	H	45 kW*	Temporary February 1, 1955. On permanent mast, October 8, 1956. Power increased December 1, 1957, June 9, 1958 and December 4, 1961.
Thrumster (Wick)	1	V	7 kW*	Temporary, December 15, 1958. Permanent March 1, 1960.
Toward (Rothesay/Largs)	5	V	234 W*	February 22, 1965.
Ventnor (I. of W.) (relay)	5	H	9.6 W*	May 4, 1964.
Weardale (Durham) (relay)	1	H	160 W*	February 21, 1966.
Wenvoe (West)	5	V	100 kW	Temporary August 15, 1952. Permanent December 20, 1952.
Wenvoe (Welsh)	13	V	200 kW*	February 8, 1964.
Whitby (relay)	—	—	—	—
Winter Hill (Lancs)	12	V	63 kW*	Temporary April 20, 1964. Increased power January 31, 1966.

*Directional Aerials. E.R.P. = effective radiated power. V = vertical. H = horizontal.

I.T.A. Transmitters

Station	Chan- nel	Polari- zation	E.R.P. (kW)	Opening Date
Angus, Dundee and Perth	11	V	50*	October 13, 1965.
Arlon Caerns.	10	H	2.5-10*	November 9, 1962.
Belmont, East Lincs.	7	V	20*	December 20, 1965.
Black Hill, Central Scotland	10	V	150-475*	August 31, 1957. 1,000ft. mast, July 10, 1961.
Black Mountain, N. Ireland	9	H	20-100*	October 31, 1959.
Burnhope, N.E. England	8	H	20-100*	January 15, 1959.
Caldbeck, The Borders	11	H	20-100*	September 1, 1961.
Caradon Hill, Cornwall	12	V	10-200*	April 29, 1961.
Chillerton Down, I. of W.	11	V	100*	August 30, 1958.
Croydon, London	9	V	50-400*	September 22, 1955. New aerial December 5, 1962.
Dover, Kent	10	V	1-100*	January 31, 1960.
Durris Aberdeen	9	H	15-400*	September 30, 1961.
Emley Moor, Yorkshire	10	V	200*	November 3, 1956. New mast and aerials due to open summer, 1966. E.R.P. will be 200kW directional.
Fremont Point, Channel Islands	9	H	2-10*	September 1, 1962.
Lichfield, Midlands	8	V	200-400*	February 17, 1956. 1,000ft. mast, July 18, 1961.
Membury, Berks	12	H	30*	April 30, 1965.
Mendlesham, East Anglia	11	H	200*	October 27, 1959.
Moel-y-Parc, Flints.	11	V	25*	January 28, 1963.
Mounteagle, Inverness	12	H	10-50*	September 30, 1961.
Presely, Pembrokeshire	8	H	5-100*	September 16, 1962.
Richmond Hill, I. of M.	8	H	9*	March 26, 1965.
Rumster Forest, Caithness and Orkney	8	V	30*	June 25, 1965.
Sandy Heath, Beds.	6	H	30*	July 13, 1965.
Scarborough (town)	6	H	1*	June 11, 1965.
St. Hilary, S. Wales (West)	10	V	200	January 14, 1958.
St. Hilary, S. Wales (Welsh)	7	V	100	February, 1965.
Selkirk, Berwick	13	V	25*	December 1, 1961.
Stockland Hill, Devon	9	V	10-100*	April 29, 1961.
Strabane, West Ulster	8	V	25-100	February 18, 1963.
Winter Hill, Lancs.	9	V	100	May 3, 1956. New mast and aerials due to operate mid-1966.

E.R.P. = effective radiated power. V=vertical. H=horizontal. *Directional aerials.

CHARACTERISTICS OF TELEVISION SYSTEMS (As indicated in C.C.I.R. Report 308, Xth Plenary Assembly Geneva, 1963)

System	Number of lines	Channel width Mc	Vision bandwidth Mc	Vision/ sound separation Mc	Vestigial side-band Mc	Vision modulation	Sound modulation
A	405	5	3	-3.5	0.75	Pos	AM

United Kingdom (UK): System A 405 lines.

ch	Mc	ch	Mc	ch	Mc
B-1	45.00/ 41.50	B-6	179.75/176.25	B-11	204.75/201.25
B-2	51.75/ 48.25	B-7	184.75/181.25	B-12	209.75/206.25
B-3	56.75/ 53.25	B-8	189.75/186.25	B-13	214.75/211.25
B-4	61.75/ 58.25	B-9	194.75/191.25	B-14	219.75/216.25
B-5	66.75/ 63.25	B-10	199.75/196.25		

405—LINE TELEVISION

Vhf monochrome channels (BBC 1)

Names of relay stations indented	Ch	Pol'n	Max erp (kW)	Ch	Pol'n	Max erp (kW)	
LONDON AND SOUTH EAST ENGLAND				SCOTLAND			
Crystal Palace ..	1	V	100	Kirk o'Shotts ..	3	V	100
Bexhill* ..	3	H	0.15	Ashkirk ..	1	V	18
Eastbourne ..	5	V	0.05	Ayr* ..	2	H	0.05
Hastings ..	4	H	0.015	Campbeltown*	5	V	0.25
Hungerford*	4	H	0.025	Dundee Law*	2	V	0.01
Newhaven* ..	8	V	0.05	Forfar ..	5	V	5
Rye ..	3	H	0.05	Girvan* ..	4	V	0.02
Oxford* ..	2	H	0.65	Lochgilphead	1	V	0.02
Swingate (Dover)	2	V	1.5	Millburn Muir	1	V	0.01
Canterbury* ..	5	V	0.03	Perth* ..	4	V	0.025
Folkestone ..	4	H	0.04	Pitlochry ..	1	H	0.2
SOUTH				Port Ellen* ..	2	V	0.05
Rowridge ..	3	V	100	Rosneath ..	2	V	0.02
Brighton ..	2	V	0.4	Toward ..	5	V	0.25
Ventnor* ..	5	H	0.01	Meldrum ..	4	H	17
Weymouth ..	1	H	0.05	Ballater ..	1	V	0.01
WEST				Bressay ..	3	V	6
Wenvoe ..	5	V	100	Orkney ..	5	V	15
Barnstaple ..	3	H	0.2	Thrumster ..	1	V	7
Bath ..	6	H	0.25	Rosemarkie ..	2	H	20
Marlborough*	7	H	0.025	Ballachulish*	2	V	0.1
Swindon* ..	3	H	0.2	Fort William	5	H	1.5
SOUTH WEST				Grantown ..	1	H	0.4
Les Platons ..	4	H	1	Kingussie ..	5	H	0.035
North Hessary				Kinlochleven*	1	V	0.005
Tor ..	2	V	15	Meivaig ..	4	V	25
Bude* ..	4	V	0.1	Oban ..	4	V	3
Okehampton*	4	V	0.04	Penifiler ..	1	H	0.025
Sidmouth ..	4	H	0.03	Skriaig ..	3	H	12
Redruth ..	1	H	10	Sandale ..	6	H	70
Bodmin* ..	5	H	0.01	NORTHERN IRELAND			
Isles of Scilly*	3	H	0.02	Divis ..	1	H	35
MIDLANDS				Ballycastle* ..	4	H	0.05
Sutton Coldfield	4	V	100	Brougher			
Churchdown				Mountain	5	V	7
Hill* ..	1	H	0.25	Kilkeel* ..	3	H	0.025
Hereford* ..	2	H	0.05	Larne ..	3	H	0.05
Northampton*	3	V	0.1	Londonderry	2	H	1.5
EAST				Maddybenny			
Peterborough ..	5	H	1	More* ..	5	H	0.02
Bedford* ..	10	H	3	Newry ..	4	V	0.03
Cambridge* ..	2	H	0.1	WALES (BBC Wales)			
Tacolneston ..	3	H	45	Blaenplwyf ..	3	H	3
Aldeburgh* ..	5	V	0.025	Dolgellau ..	5	V	0.025
Manningtree ..	4	H	5	Ffestiniog* ..	5	H	0.05
NORTH				Machynlleth	5	H	0.05
Belmont* ..	13	V	20	Haverfordwest ..	4	H	10
Holme Moss ..	2	V	100	Ammanford ..	12	H	0.02
Scarborough*	1	H	0.5	Cardigan* ..	2	H	0.45
Sheffield* ..	1	H	0.05	Llanddona ..	1	V	6
Wensleydale ..	1	V	0.02	Holyhead ..	4	H	0.01
NORTH WEST				Moel-y-Parc ..	6	V	20
Winter Hill ..	12	V	125	Betws-y-Coed	4	H	0.035
Douglas (IOM)	5	V	3	Llangollen ..	1	H	0.035
Kendal* ..	1	H	0.025	Wenvoe ..	13	V	200
Morecambe				Abergavenny*	3	H	0.03
Bay ..	3	H	5	Carmarthen*	1	V	0.02
NORTH EAST				Kilvey Hill ..	2	H	0.5
Pontop Pike ..	5	H	17	Llandrindod			
Richmond ..	3	V	0.045	Wells ..	1	H	1.5
Weardale ..	1	H	0.15	Llanelli* ..	3	V	0.015
Whitby ..	4	V	0.04	Llanidloes ..	13	H	0.02
Sandale ..	4	H	30	Wenvoe (BBC 1)	5	V	100

* Stations scheduled to close down during 1982. See notes at beginning of book — (405-line services).

VHF Television Transmitting Stations

VHF Station		Channel/ Polarisation	ERP (kW)	Mean Aerial Height ft. aod	Service Date
Number	Name				
THE BORDERS AND ISLE OF MAN					
Border Television					
37	Caldbeck	11 H	100	1902	1.9.61
37.1	Selkirk	13 V	25	1644	1.12.61
37.2	Richmond Hill	8 H	10	730	26.3.65
37.3	Whitehaven	7 V	0.1	571	30.1.68
CENTRAL SCOTLAND					
Scottish Television					
5	Black Hill	10 V	475	1853	31.8.57
5.1	*Rosneath	13 V	0.1	450	13.12.68
5.2	Rothsay	8 V	1	651	30.8.68
5.3	Lethanhill	12 V	3	1135	31.1.69
CHANNEL ISLANDS					
Channel Television					
28	Fremont Point	9 H	10	782	1.9.62
EAST OF ENGLAND					
Anglia Television					
14	Mendlesham	11 H	200	1160	27.10.59
14.1	Sandy Heath	6 H	30	875	13.7.65
LANCASHIRE					
Granada Television					
3	*Winter Hill	9 V	100	2127	3.5.56
LONDON					
Thames Television					
London Weekend Television					
1	Croydon	9 V	350	830	22.9.55
MIDLANDS					
ATV					
2	Lichfield	8 V	400	1453	17.2.56
2.1	Membury	12 H	30	1155	30.4.65
2.2	Ridge Hill	6 V	10	1120	30.7.68
NORTH-EAST ENGLAND					
Tyne Tees Television					
9	Burnhope	8 H	100	1487	15.1.59
NORTH-EAST SCOTLAND					
Grampian Television					
12	Durriss	9 H	400	2016	30.9.61
12.1	Angus	11 V	50	1727	13.10.65
56	Mounteagle	12 H	50	1465	30.9.61
56.1	Rumster Forest	8 V	30	1425	25.6.65
56.2	Aviemore	10 H	1	1505	29.11.69
NORTHERN IRELAND					
Ulster Television					
7	Black Mountain	9 H	100	1687	13.10.59
7.1	Scrabane	8 V	100	1867	18.2.63
7.2	*Ballycastle	13 H	0.1	606	6.7.70
SOUTH OF ENGLAND					
Southern Television					
8	Chillerton Down	11 V	100	1246	30.8.58
8.1	Newhaven	6 V	1	385	3.8.70
13	Dover	10 V	100	1165	31.1.60
SOUTH-WEST ENGLAND					
Westward Television					
31	Caradon Hill	12 V	200	1936	29.4.61
32	Stockland Hill	9 V	100	1475	29.4.61
32.1	Huntshaw Cross	11 H	0.5	1130	22.4.68
WALES AND WEST OF ENGLAND					
HTV					
6	St. Hilary	10 V	200	1113	14.1.58
6	St. Hilary	7 V	100	1043	15.2.65
6.1	*Bath	8 H	0.5	678	13.5.68
6.2	Abergavenny	11 H	0.1	1567	23.4.69
6.3	Brecon	8 H	0.1	872	30.4.70
29	Presely	8 H	100	1812	14.9.62
29.1	Arfon	10 H	10	1904	9.11.62
29.2	Bala	7 V	0.1	1151	26.7.67
29.3	*Ffestiniog	13 V	0.1	1145	28.2.69
29.4	Llandoverly	11 H	0.1	1154	30.8.68
29.5	*Llandrindod				
	Wells	9 H	3	1605	1.7.69
45	Moel-y-Parc	11 V	25	1815	28.1.63
YORKSHIRE					
Yorkshire Television					
4	Emley Moor	10 V	200	1807	3.11.56
4.1	*Scarborough	6 H	1	759	11.6.65
4.2	*Sheffield	6 H	0.1	958	23.3.69
20	*Belmont	7 V	20	1411	20.12.65

Note: The VHF construction programme is now complete. VHF main station numbers are in bold type.

*Also used for BBC.

TRANSMITTER	CHANNEL	ERP (kW)	REMARKS
<u>OTHER BRITISH TRANSMITTERS</u>			
G3CTS	-----	---	(Note 1)
Tower TV	6		Probably never transmitted (2)
Radio City TV	3		Projected (3)
Caroline TV			Projected (4)

IRELAND

Main transmitter

Kippure (Co. Dublin)	7H	100	closed 31.1.79
Truskmore (Co. Sligo)	11V	100	closed 27.8.78

Low-power transposers (all in Co. Donegal)

Fanad	7H	1) due to
Letterkenny	6V	1) close at
Moville	12V	2) end 1983*

* exact closure date awaited from RTE

1. G3CTS was the Royal Television Society's own experimental and demonstration transmitter in London. Vision was on 427MHz DSB (12 watts peak to aerial feeder), sound on 423.5 MHz (10 watts). A more detailed article on this unusual and indeed unique station will follow in a future issue of *405 Alive*.

2. Pirate television became quite a talking point during the mid-1960s, following the apparent success of the offshore radio stations. Tower TV was to broadcast from the Sunk Head fort in the sea 14 miles off Walton on the Naze on the Essex coast. Although photographs exist of a rather crude-looking CCTV camera shooting the Tower TV caption, there is some dispute whether they ever in fact went on the air. The alleged first reception was at 4.20 AM on Tuesday 9th November 1965. The channel chosen (5) and power (10 watts), had Tower ever gone on the air, would reportedly have caused harm to radio astronomy experiments at Cambridge.

3. City TV was a project to broadcast from an ex-Naval minesweeper: it did not reach reality, though detailed plans were made. These were announced on 8th June 1965, following the Government's announcement of its intention to ban cigarette advertising on TV from 1st August. Initial capital outlay was estimated to be US\$ 85,000 and if advertising support was forthcoming, 'top quality'

films and news bulletins were to be broadcast on channel 3 (used by the BBC in Wales, well out of the range of City's projected coverage of south-east England).

4. Caroline TV was to be broadcast from a plane, similar to the American Stratovision experiments of many years previously. It too did not get off the ground, though photographs of the station idents were issued. In fact the only successful British offshore television station was in fact TV Noordzee, a British-owned affair on an artificial island off the Dutch coast. It was a 625 line affair, operating in Band III, and was declared illegal after a while [see *International Broadcast Engineer*, November & December 1964 for a detailed description].



Caroline Graphics by Eike Hartmann



NOW... IT'S 'PIRATE' TV

A PIRATE radio station is planning to launch a £30,000 floating television studio.

It is the idea of Mr. Reg Calvert, 37-year-old boss of Radio City, which operates from a fort off Whitstable, Kent.

The pirate television station will broadcast from an

ex-Naval minesweeper off the Kent coast.

It plans to show top-quality films, give news bulletins, and cash in on the Postmaster-General's ban on cigarette advertising on ITV from August 1.

A Post Office spokesman said yesterday: "We do not welcome this move."

1-6-65

JUNE



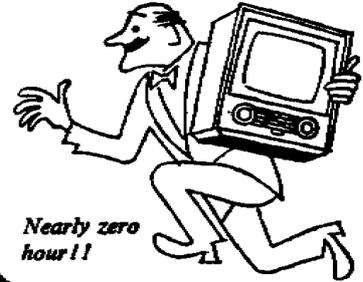
Still three months

JULY



Getting closer!

AUG



Nearly zero hour!!

SEPT



Panic!!

INDEPENDENT TV BEGINS IN SEPTEMBER

SAVE YOURSELF A RUSH

Urge your TV customers to convert now!

NO-ONE WANTS to turn down business, but you may find yourself in that situation when independent TV begins—unless you urge your customers to convert *now!*

We are doing our bit with a big advertising campaign due to break in a couple of weeks. Big spaces in London evening and suburban newspapers, posters in the Underground, leaflets for your counter, and windowbills—all these will tell your customers about the forthcoming programmes: most of the biggest names in

the entertainment world will be appearing regularly on the new station. We are telling viewers, too, to come to *you* with their enquiries.

But *you* know what people are like for putting things off! So warn your customers that they may miss the first months of the new programmes *unless they take steps now!*

The new station will bring you plenty of new business—make sure *now* that you can cope with it!

Can you accept orders for conversion work now?

There will shortly be a heavy demand on your skilled labour for conversion work. May we suggest you look into whether you are ready for it—with the necessary labour know-how and equipment supplies?

Previous page:

An important message to the trade, issued in June 1955. Note that the original name of ATV was Associated Broadcasting Company, and their symbol was the overlapping eyes containing the letters ABC. This organisation had no connection with the later ABC Television.

On the following pages:

1. TV programmes in 1939;
2. A view of the Alexandra Palace tower before the aerials had been erected.
3. The motif of the Alexandra Palace aerials became an icon of the television era: a stylised version opened the BBC television news, newsreel and films for several years.

Wireless World

AUGUST 10th, 1939.

Television Programmes

Sound 41.5 Mc/s

Vision 45 Mc/s

An hour's special film transmission intended for demonstration purposes will be given from 11 a.m. to 12 noon each weekday. The National or Regional programme will be relayed on 41.5 Mc/s from approximately 7.45 to 9 p.m. daily.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10th.

3-4.20, "Fox in the Morning," a new comedy by Lionel Brown.

9, Adelaide Hall in Cabaret. 9.30, Catch-as-Catch-Can Wrestling. 9.45, Gaumont-British News. 9.55, Cartoon Film. 10, Kuda Bux, the man with the X-ray eyes. 10.10-10.25, Boxing demonstration.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11th.

3, Puppet Parade. 3.15, Cartoon Film. 3.20, Harcourt Williams telling children's stories. 3.30, Film. 3.40, Animal Drawings. 3.50, Gaumont-British News.

9, Eve Lister and Gene Sheldon in Cabaret. 9.30, British Movietonews. 9.40, E. H. Tattersall. 9.45, Cartoon Film. 9.50, "Love—In Twenty Lessons," a farce by Delano Ames. 10.20-10.30, Pas Seul.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12th.

3, Cartoon Film. 3.5, "Television Surveys," No. 11—O.B. from Kensington Gardens. 3.50, British Movietonews.

9, Gaumont-British News. 9.10-10.25, Diana Churchill and Denis Webb in Noel Coward's three-act comedy, "Private Lives."

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13th.

9.5-10.20, "Tobias and the Angel," by James Bridie. Robert Atkins' production from the Open-Air Theatre, Regent's Park.

MONDAY, AUGUST 14th.

3, Cabaret including Tommy Handley and Company in "The Disorderly Room," 3.30, British Movietonews. 3.40-4.5, "Mr. Jones Dines Out," one-act comedy by Stuart Ready.

9, Cabaret including Flotsam and Jetsam and Carl and Faith Stimpson's Humanettes. 9.25,

Gaumont-British News. 9.35-10.30, O.B. from the Hammersmith Palais de Danse, which will include the semi-final of the contest to find "Miss Radiolympia."

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15th.

3, A. P. Herbert's one-act opera "Plain Jane." 3.25, Gaumont-British News. 3.35-4.5, "Love—In Twenty Lessons" (as on Friday at 9.50 p.m.)

9, Cabaret. 9.30, Vanity Fair—the trend of Autumn fashions. 9.45, British Movietonews. 9.55, Cartoon Film. 10-10.25, Bee Double Sharp—a musical Bee.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16th.

3-4.15, "Private Lives" (as on Saturday at 9.10 p.m.)

9, Diana Ward in Songs. 9.10, Gaumont-British News. 9.20, Music Makers: Jean Norris (pianoforte). 9.30, "Three in a Bar," a one-act play by Peter Franklin. 9.50, Cartoon Film. 10, Film—"West of Inverness." 10.10-10.25, Le Quintette du Hot Club de France.

Three New
Hi-Q
Receivers
for 5—175 metres

Short Wave

Two New
Hi-Q
Transmitters
for 20 and 40 metre
bands

The first journal in Great Britain devoted entirely to the interests of the short wave listener.

Editorial and Publishing Offices:
"Short Wave," 63, Lincoln's Inn
Fields, W.C.2.

VOL. 1.

All-World Drama	page 2
The Voice of Australia	page 5
How to make Head and Tail of the Q Code	page 6
All about the Hi-Q Receivers	page 8
The Hi-Q Straight 4	pages 9-11
The Great 5-metre Mystery	page 12
The Hi-Q Superhet	pages 13-15
Calling All Cars	page 16
The Hi-Q Converter	pages 17-19
Short Wave News Reel	page 20

C O N T E N T S

No. 3.

So you're going to build your own Broadcasting Station	page 22
The Hi-Q 1-valve Transmitter	pages 24, 26, 27
The Hi-Q Speech Transmitter	pages 25, 28, 29
The Hi-Q Dummy Aerial	page 30
The Hows and Wheres of collecting QSL Cards	page 32
How to Erect 5-metre Aerials	page 34
All the short wave stations of the world	page 35

TELEVISION Begins from Alexandra Palace.

Possible Date—Oct. 23rd.

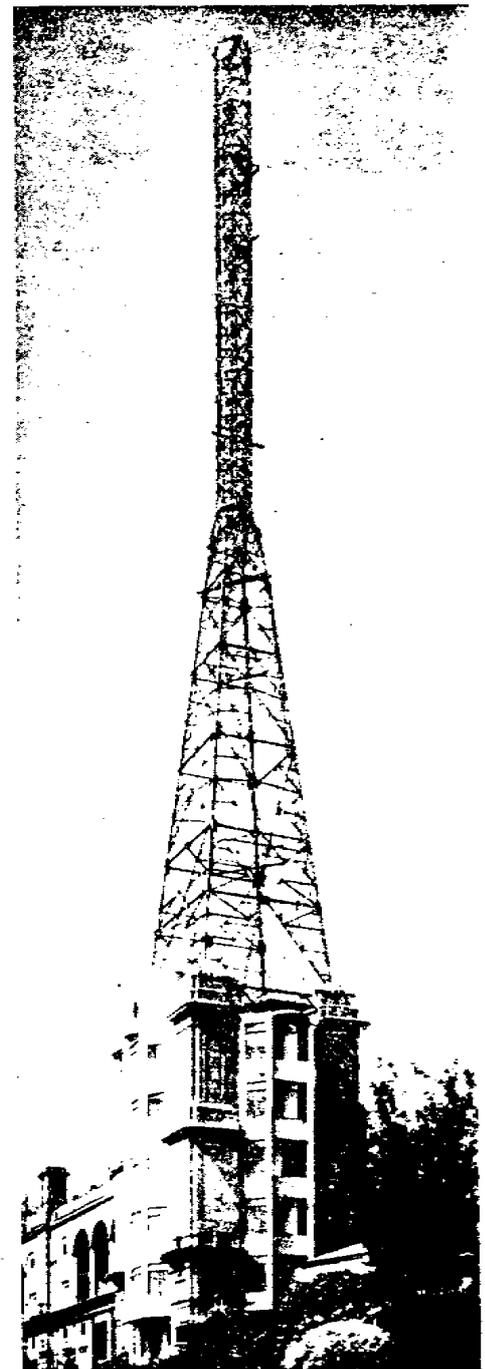
You can hear the Programmes on the new Lissen Hi-Q receivers, and on your present set with the Hi-Q Converter.

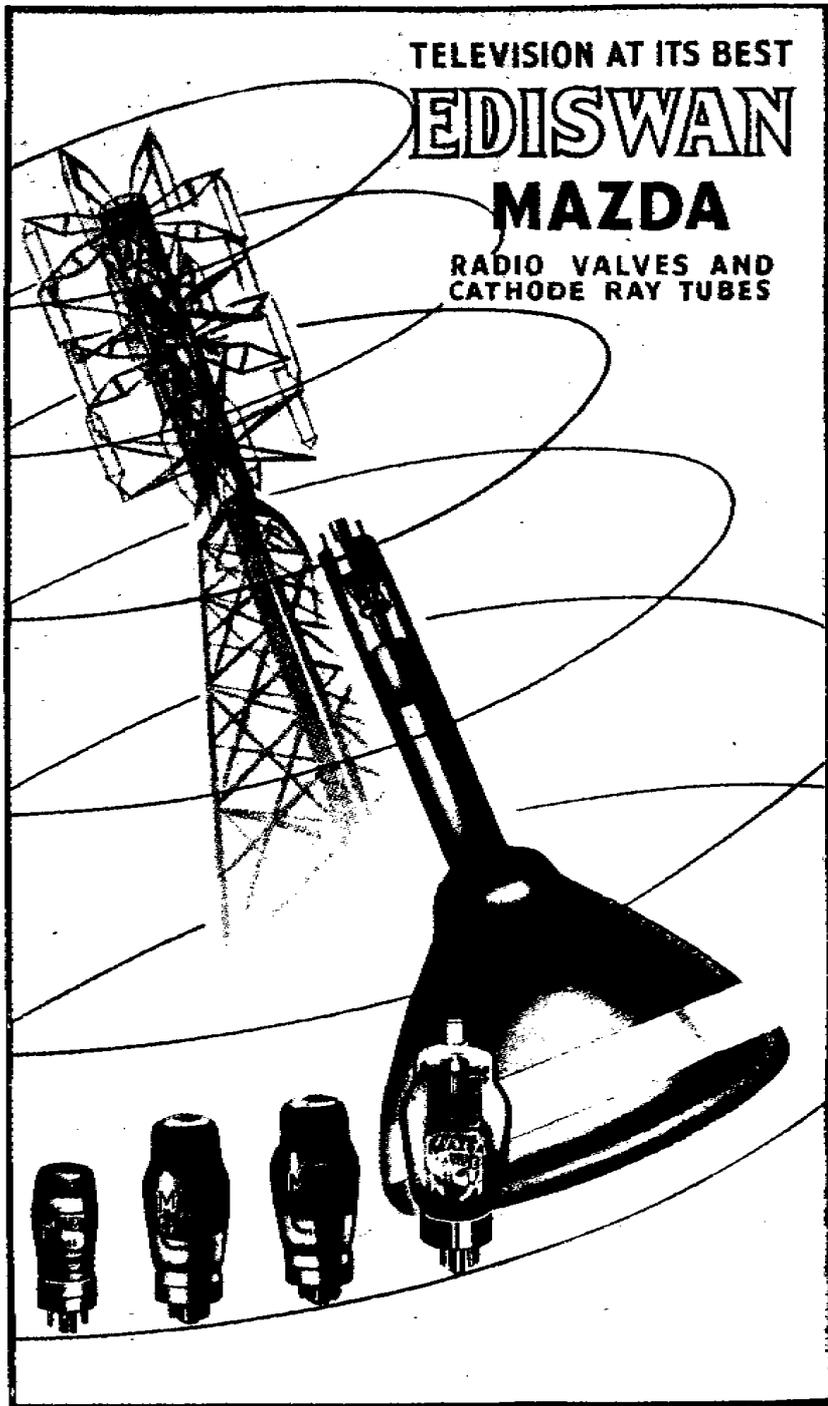
Daily transmissions are taking place during the Radio Show at Olympia so that the public can see actual transmissions of television reception and it is expected that television transmissions will begin in earnest in the Autumn.

Short Wave have it from good authority that the date on which these broadcasts are starting is

October 23rd. Three programme periods are contemplated daily at 3—4 p.m., 6.15—7.15 p.m. and 9.30—10.30 p.m. and the sound signals will be radiated on a frequency of 7.2 metres (41.5 Mc/s) on a power of 3 kilowatts.

Vision signals will be radiated on a frequency of 6.6 metres (45 Mc/s) on a power of 17 kilowatts peak during periods of maximum modulation.



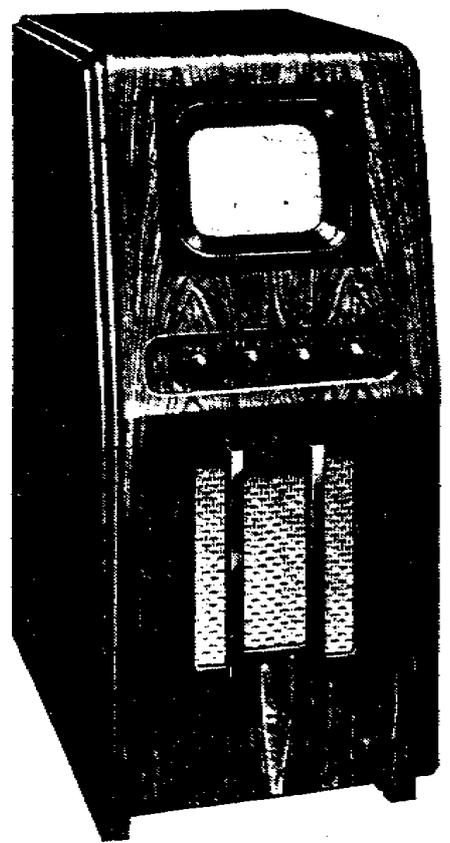


THE EDISON SWAN ELECTRIC CO., LTD., 155 Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2
R.M.55

Cossor Television Sets

THREE principal types constitute the present range of Cossor television receivers. Model 1210 at 53 guineas is a combined television and all-wave radio receiver, giving an unusually large direct vision picture (12in. x 10in.). The lowest-priced instrument is the 23-guinea table Model 54, with a picture size of approximately 5in. x 4in.

Between these two models comes the new Model 65, with a picture size of 6in. x 5in.



Cossor Model 65 Television Receiver.

Designed for sound and vision only, it is housed in a console cabinet approximately 35in. x 15in. x 20in. There are four controls, two for vision and two for sound. There are 13 valves in the circuit, and the price is 27 guineas.

All three receivers are available with an extra three-valve amplifier for ranges over 20 miles from Alexandra Palace, at an additional charge of 3 guineas. (1939)

Ferranti provided their dealers with this imaginative clock, recalling the BBC tuning signal. Anyone with one of these clocks to dispose of please contact the editor!

March 14, 1953

WIRELESS AND ELECTRICAL TRADER

11

THE SIGN THAT MEANS ALL THIS...



- ... Partnership with a sound and secure organisation.
- Really attractive radio and TV models at competitive prices.
- Independent H.P. facilities.
- Backing of vigorous National Press advertising.

The Ferranti Dealer has a good sign — a sign which tells the time (electrically of course) and which reminds the passer-by of Television, and Ferranti Television in particular. But there is a great deal more to it than that.

Ferranti Dealership means partnership with a sound and secure organisation—one of the biggest and oldest concerns in the electrical industry.

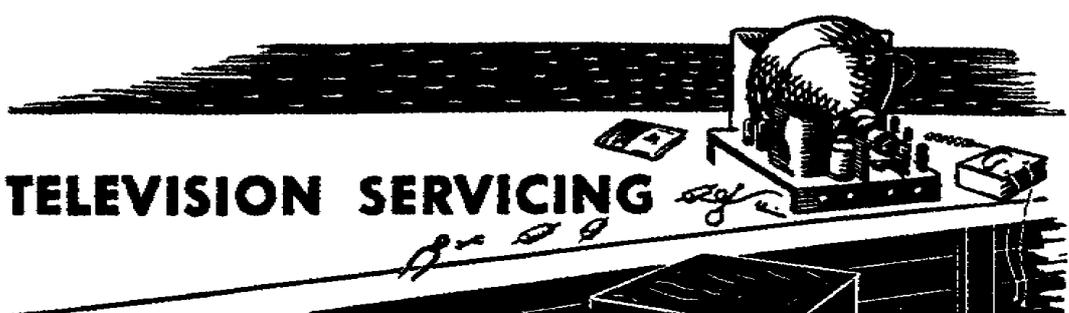
It means really attractive radio and TV models and prices and a first rate technical service.

It means the assurance of a stable price policy, independent H.P. facilities, and the backing of vigorous National press advertising, tip-top literature and sales aids. All *that* makes our slogan make good sense.



Clearly FERRANTI for sight & sound

FERRANTI LIMITED, RADIO SALES OFFICE, MOSTON, MANCHESTER 10.



TELEVISION SERVICING

Please note that we are NOT in a position to supply circuit diagrams, service sheets or other information on equipment. In this we recommend you to read the small advertisements below: those published each month in *Television* magazine. We will also print requests for help in this section of the newsletter. Most valves are not hard to find: we recommend Billington Valves (0403-210729), Kenzen (021-446 4346), Wilson Valves (04575-611) and PM Components (0474-560521). Would you like to recommend other firms? If you think a firm gives good service please tell us all!

MARKET PLACE

This is the area for buying and selling all kinds of things to do with television, new or old.

Want to join in? Then send us your advertisement: there is no charge, although if space is short we may have to 'prune' out the least relevant adverts or hold them over until next time.

Traders are also welcome here but we do require people who are commercial dealers to state this in their advertisements. The letter (T) at the end of an advertisement indicates that the advertisement is 'trade'.

Also please note that we do not accept any responsibility for dealings resulting from these advertisements, which are published in good faith. Replicas and reproductions may be difficult to identify, so beware of any items 'of doubtful origin' and assure yourself of the authenticity of anything you propose buying. And try to have fun, after all it's only a hobby!

* VINTAGE TVs, radios and testgear repaired and restored. Personal attention to every job and moderate prices. Estimates without obligation - deal with an enthusiast! (BVWS and BATC member) Please include SAE with all enquiries - thanks. Dave Higginson, 28 High Street, Misterton, Doncaster, Yorks., DN10 4BU. (T). Tel: 0427 - 890768.

FOR SALE: several 405-only and dual standard sets cheap for quick disposal! 12" upwards. Dave Higginson (Yorks.), 0427-890768 (T).

* FOR SALE: large number of 1950-70 TVs for sale, also a few 17" CRTs and other parts. WANTED: TV & RADIO SERVICING 1971-72 to complete set. I have retired after 30 years in TV servicing, with full service equipment; I would be prepared to assist anyone in trouble. My library includes PRACTICAL TV and an assortment of vintage service manuals. Paul Anderson, 65 Beechwood Road, Sanderstead, South Croydon, CR2 0AE.

* FOR SALE: Bush TV24A, Murphy V350 single standard 405 line TVs, v.g.c and cheap! Also National Panasonic 20" solid-state and Pye 9" hybrid 625 monitors at a reasonable price too. S. James, 354 Loughborough Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7FD.

* FOR SALE: Bush TV66 and Pye 28 Trio (19" TV 405/625 combined with radio-gram - the Slimline Trio, very scarce). Both in good working order. Bruce Adam, 53 Red Leasowes Road, Hasbury, Halesowen, West Midlands, B63 4SE.

* FOR SALE/EXCHANGE: Lots of 625 line video equipment, audio, cine, test gear. Domestic and professional. Send SAE for list: George Woods, 5 Mere Green, Walton, Liverpool L4 5XL.

* FOR SALE: Kenzen for valves! I have lots of 405 line TV types available plus a huge range of old-style resistors and capacitors, fuseholders, plugs, sockets and hard-to-find bits. Also may be able to help with spares and data/circuits. Members of the 405 Line Group can have a free copy of my 26 page catalogue if they send an A4 size SAE with 28p stamp to Kenzen, Unit 9, 16-20 George Street, Balsall Heath, BIRMINGHAM B12 9RG. Telephone 021-446 4346. Fax 021-446 4228. I hope the Group takes off.

* WANTED: small-screen pre-war TV for my collection up to £300 offered, also Pye D18T and other 1940s sets. Robin Howells, 6 Dunlin Drive, Spennells, Kidderminster, Worcs., DY10 4TA.

* WANTED: any data please on Pye 2B23 C4Z valve monitor and Murphy 773 transistor monitor. Photocopy of circuits would help greatly. Graham White 0582-574464 evenings.

* WANTED Television toys, games, novelties, etc. which illustrate a television (e.g. Dinky Supertoys outside broadcast van with TV camera). FOR SALE: several post-war 405-line TVs (buyer collects!). Jonathan Hill, 2-4 Brook Street, Bampton, Devon, EX16 9LY. Tel: 0398-31310.

* WANTED: Old C-mount lenses for TV camera, also 2" x 2" slides of test cards and captions to borrow and copy or buy. Andy Emmerson, 71 Falcutt Way, Northampton, NN2 8PH.

* WANTED: Link 102 camera. I can supply photostats of service sheets for most 405 line sets, also *Television* (1928-41), *Journal of the Television Society* (1938-61), *Practical Television* (all issues) at cost of photostat plus postage. Bill Journeaux, 7 Blair Avenue, Poole, Dorset, BH14 0DA. 0202-748072.

* WANTED: small self-contained 405 line video camera. Edwin Parsons, 0474-813659.

- * WANTED: any 405 line video tapes (Beta format). Charles Brown 0782-289386.
- * WANTED: Murphy V879 or V873 TV+FM radio - 625 convertible; TV manuals; manufacturers' service bulletins, etc. Dave Hazell 0993-771373.
- * WANTED: 405 line material, preferably on VHS but Beta also acceptable. Keith Wilson 0844-291615 evenings, 0491-573675 daytime.
- * WANTED: pre-war TV sets at a collector's price, mirror lid sets, less than 12" sets, vision-only sets, even photos of these sets. Rudi Sillen, Limberg 31, B-3170 HERSELT, Belgium. Tel: 010 32 14-546889.
- * WANTED: Bush TV22. Price to Robert Hawes, 63 Manor Road, Tottenham, London N17 0JH. Tel: 01-808 2838.
- * WANTED: any old television magazines and books, wartime or pre-war *Radio Times* for the archives. Douglas Byrne G3KPO, Hon. Curator, The Wireless Museum, Arreton Manor, Newport, Isle of Wight. Tele. 0983-67665.
- * WANTED: any recordings of Test Card C music (1950s until mid-1964). Keith Hamer, 7 Epping Close, Derby, DE3 4HR.
- * WANTED: 405 line camera, any type considered. Will either buy or can swap for National WV341 625 line model complete with zoom lens and integral 3" monitor. S. James, 354 Loughborough Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7FD.
- * WANTED: old camera tubes and other imaging devices sought for the BATC's collection. Also data sheets or technical articles relating to same (can photocopy and return within a few days if preferred). Also seeking an Orthicon to fill a gap in our historic collection. Peter Delaney, 6 East View Close, Wargrave, Berks., RG10 8BJ (tel: Wargrave 0735 22-3121).
- * WANTED: service information on Sony SLC7 Betamax VCR for refurbishment as signal source for 405 lines TV display in museum communications gallery. Also 405 line source material. B.P. Hayward, Keeper-Science, Museum of Science and Industry, Newhall Stret, Birmingham, B3 1RZ.
- * EXCHANGE: various 405 line recordings on VHS tape for others. I regret I cannot supply these except as swaps. Andy Emmerson, Northampton address.
- * CALLING ALL DXers! Keep up to date with *Teleradio News*, the only magazine for dedicated enthusiasts. Six issues a year cost you just £6 post paid, so send your name and address with a cheque made out to HS PUBLICATIONS, 7 Epping Close, Derby, DE3 4HR.
- * HELP OFFERED: I know of places where very old televisions do turn up in various conditions. If other members are seeking a set give me a ring. Paul Thorpe, 0922-645683.
- * RECOMMENDED SHOP: J. & N. Bull Electrical, 250 Portland Road, Hove, Sussex has old TV servicing equipment from time to time, also obsolete and spare parts at reasonable prices - Albert Pritchard.

GOOD HOMES WANTED!

The following items have been offered free of charge by their generous owners, though they will doubtless accept small donations if you are pleased with what you get! In each case the advertiser has agreed to hold the items for one month from publication - after then it's the corporation rubbish dump. You have been warned!

* Ekco TMB2721 9" mains/battery 405 line portable (first UK portable), working order. May deliver if petrol paid. Mike Homer G6AIQ, Romsey 0794-513982.

* Some 405 line and dual-standard sets. Philip Clark, 24A Spital Terrace, Gainsborough, Lincs., DN21 2HE. Tel: Gainsboro 0427-5665 shop hours.

* 21" Alba 405 line set in beautiful condition, in fact immaculate. This was the first all-PCB construction Band I/III set, uses fireball tuner. Also available new brand new 25" and 26" shadowmask tubes and scan coil assemblies. Ken French 01-232 1520 office hours.

* Ekco 405 line TV/radiogram console (not gratis but cheap), also Newnes TV servicing books most years 1948-1975, again not gratis but cheap. Andy Norman 0732-366460 office hours.

* Bush TV125 dual-standard, working. Alan Bray, 01-907 2920.

* TV valves (about 50, mainly taken from dual-standard sets plus another 50 miscellaneous valves), also 3 volumes of Radio and TV Servicing (1965-68). These must be collected from Bournemouth. Peter Worrell, 0202 - 572656.

* EMI 201 camera, dates from 1960, 405 capable and rather large. Also a Philips PC80 625 line colour camera, circa 1968/9. Contact Brian Summers, 29 Perivale Grange, Perivale Lane, Greenford, Middx., UB6 8TN.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

We want to hear from YOU! This is *your* newsletter, so please send in your letters, notes and articles; don't be bashful, other people *will* be interested in what you're doing! If at all possible, please TYPE your contributions using a black ribbon. I don't have a lot of time to spend retyping and editing: I'd much rather print stuff exactly as it comes in! Contributions on computer disk are particularly welcome and your disk will be returned. I can handle most variations of IBM PC, Amstrad and CP/M disks in 3", 3.5" and 5.25" size but please process your words as an ASCII or WordStar file. I cannot handle BBC or Macintosh disks, and if in doubt please ring first on 0604-844130. Thanks.

THE BACK PAGE

* 405 Alive is the newsletter of the 405 Line Group, an independent non-profit making group devoted to the study and preservation of old television technology. It is sent to subscribers without further charge and thus has no cover price. This publication is not subsidised by any other organisation. Publication is at approximately three month intervals, in March, June, September and December.

* Editorial correspondence should be sent to Andrew Emmerson, 71 Falcutt Way, Northampton, NN2 8PH. (All letters are gratefully received and will be acknowledged in the next Newsletter if not sooner. If you are expecting a reply you *must* include a stamped addressed envelope *and* your telephone number - thanks.)

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* Allied interest groups. For details of the BRITISH VINTAGE WIRELESS SOCIETY send SAE to Gerald Wells, Vintage Wireless Museum, 23 Rosendale Road, London, SE21. To join the BRITISH AMATEUR TELEVISION CLUB send SAE to Dave Lawton GOANO, Grenehurst, Pinewood Road, High Wycombe, Bucks., HP12 4DD.

WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR OWN COPY OF 405 ALIVE?

Perhaps you are reading a friend's copy or you were sent this issue as a free sample - now you can't wait to receive your own copy four times a year. This is what you do ...

You send me four A4-size stamped addressed envelopes (with 22p stamps please) and a cheque for £5 (made out to A. N. Emmerson), which will pay for this issue plus three more. The address is 71 Falcutt Way, Northampton, NN2 8PH.

Preparing the articles and laying out the newsletter takes a fair amount of time, and by getting you to prepare the envelopes I am relieved of the time-consuming donkey work! Please follow these instructions exactly: there is no spare time to spend chasing miscreants. After issue 4 we will see how things are going and whether £5 is sufficient. If things go as I expect, both readership and the newsletter will get bigger, which will help since printing larger quantities should reduce costs. This is a purely non profit-making organisation by the way.

