## The **REVCOM** Magazine

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# The REVCOM Magazine



http://www.revcom.org.uk

**Juky 2003** 

## Editorial

I want to start by saying thankyou to all the teams that have rejoined. As well as getting the existing teams to rejoin we must also make an effort to get new members.

Now that 2003 is in full swing, it is time to do all those events!. When you have spare time remember what I said in the last mag, you can raise funds by doing disco's, car boot sales and jumble sales. I have found that doing kid's discos is a good way to raise funds.

You can now get car stickers from National. There are magnetic signs available from John Stainburn. These can be stuck to the side of the car on events. There are also window stickers showing the website address at 80p each.

We have a new member on the NEC, Sandra Howarth. Her job is to assist prospective new members. Contact her, or pass on the new member number:-

0870 765 7980

If you want to get in touch with me I am on 01823 490693 except from 23.30 - 05.00 when I am on the mobile 07763 397521.

#### cont/

There are now other frequencies available and the NEC have decided to allow teams to select any frequency for hand held radios.

For the benefit of compatibility it would be an advantage if teams used handhelds on frequency 1 and frequency 2, but we recognise that there are high band handhelds on the market that teams could use. Hence you may use any of the frequencies below for handhelds. Remember that you will not have exclusive use!

CTCSS and DCS codes are permitted on all requencies.

VHF Mid band 164.0500 164.0625

VHF High band 169.0875 169.3125 173.0500 173.0625 173.0875

UHF 1 449.3125 449.4000 449.4750

These frequencies are available now, and you may make changes to your set's frequencies via a PMR1 for a charge of £1 as long as it is on the licence already. New radios may be added for a charge of £2 Details of the reduced licence charges will be published in good time in this magazine and on the website in readiness for next year's renewal.

## PMR Licence - READ THIS!

There have been major changes to the REVCOM licence

The NEC have opted to drop the PMR general licence in favour of the new Private Business Radio (PBR) Licence.

This will bring two major benefits and one slight drawback, but we feel the benefits outweigh the slight drawback.

Our new licence number is 266109.

The two advantages are:

- 1) We shall be able to reduce the licence fee to members to a fraction of the previous cost.
- 2) We will have access to 15 frequencies that we may use anywhere in the country without notifying the RA. The drawback? well, we will not have exclusive use of the frequencies!

To avoid an uncontrolled free for all, the NEC have decided that vehicle mounted sets must be fitted with frequency 1 firstly, then frequency 2 if a second frequency is to be fitted.

Frequency 1 86.3750 MHz

Frequency 2 86.3625 MHz

This is to ensure that assisting teams can talk to each other, and any event talk in can be done on frequency 1. Both FM and AM are permitted at 5 watts ERP.

Once a set has both frequency 1 and frequency 2 fitted, then set owners may install one or more of the frequencies below.

Frequency 3 86.3375 MHz

Frequency 4 86.3500 MHz

Frequency 5 77.6875 MHz

#### **Cook's Corner**



# **Hungarian Potato Soup**

Ingredients
450g (1lb) potatoes
2 large onions, chopped
47g (1.75oz) butter
2 tsp paprika
.25 tsp dried mixed herbs
salt to taste
pinch or two of cayenne pepper
750 mL (1.25 pints) chicken stock
1 tbsp tomato puree
1 red pepper cut into strips
1 green pepper cut into strips
150 mL (.25 pints) single cream

## Method

Saute potatoes and onions in 25g (1oz) butter over gentle heat for 5 mins, stirring all the time. Add paprika and herbs. Stir in salt, cayenne, stock and tomato puree.

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#### cont.....

Melt the remaining butter in a pan. Add the red and green pepper strips and fry gently for 4 mins until slightly limp. Remove from the heat and allow to stand.

Puree the soup in a blender until smooth. Return to the pan and add the cream and pepper strips. Heat through gently and adjust seasoning.

Serve with cheesy scones or hot crusty bread.

## Letters to the General Secretary

Will you please state your preferred method of reply when writing to the General Secretary. i.e. by letter, text or e-mail.

The reply will be in the same form as it was received unless you state otherwise.

## Vehicle Signs

We have stocks of some vehicle screen stickers. Contact John Stainburn if you are interested.

## PC Corner

Swiss researchers have recently released a paper outlining a way to speed the cracking of alphanumeric Windows passwords, reducing the time to break such codes to an average of 13.6 seconds, from 1 minute 41 seconds. ...

Unix, Linux and the Mac OS X, however, add a 12-bit salt to the calculation, making any brute force attempt to break the encryption take 4,096 times longer or require 4,096 times more memory

IE alternative?

For those of you looking for a bit of fun or a real alternative to IE now that Netscape has become so buggy and slow try this!

Mozilla Firebird 0.6.

It will run under Windows XP and not only runs, but runs quickly and reliably.

A quick search around the net (use Google!) will find plug ins for it and it is fun to tweak.

Loads of features make this a credit to the OpenSource community that created it.

#### Contacting the NEC Members

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REVCOM website is at http://www.revcom.org.uk

REVCOM infoline 07020 925926

## Online Technical Assistance

Email revcom@globalengineering.biz with your computer related problem or query. No guarantees given on speed of reply.

# **Training Matters**

Our training administrator, Wilf Watson has many ways of assisting your team training. Contact him if you are needing ideas for training events.

## **Event News**

We still want reports from events with a photo or two please. Other teams may well be interested in what you have been up to, it passes on ideas. Ed.

# Spare PMR equipment?

It is sometimes difficult to get rid of unwanted PMR equipment but a solution at the moment is to contact Communications PMR 01502 531531 or 575757 or fax list to 01502 531111. Alternatively, call mobile any time 07626 934804.

They will take almost any type of PMR equipment, working or not.

Don't forget to check with Denis Jones firstly, in case any team is looking for equipment.

## **Communicating with the NEC**

REVCOM members are encouraged to contact the NEC whenever they feel the need, Do not wait for the AGM! The magazine always contains contact numbers and email addresses.

Please remember when writing to us to tell us how you would like to receive a reply, i.e. e-mail, post, or phone. Please opt for e-mail response where ever possible as this keeps our costs down.

## **REVCOM Manuals**

REVCOM Manuals are now available in new A5 format.

This includes the Communication From REVCOM, Health and Safety Policy and the Cadet Manual.

E-mail your (reasonable) requirements to mauricepinner@ukonline.co.uk

There is no charge, but donations to National Funds appreciated.

My apologies to anyone who has mailed my old compuserve account. It has become terribly unreliable, please mail again as above if you have not had a reply.

## **Enquiry Line**

A new Enquiry Line is available.

The number is 07020 925926.

Don't forget to use this number on any literature handed out to members of the public.

The purpose of this number is to give a fixed point of contact for prospective members and anyone wanting to find out about us.

This number is not for official bodies, such as the Police etc., that number remains as 07010 711373

**New Member Line**