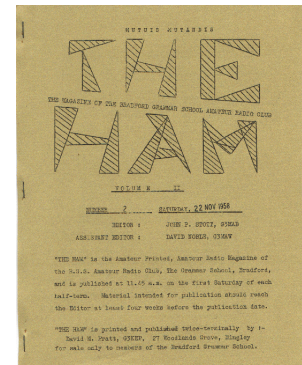


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Years have flown by since I last wrote so I thought it was high time I sent the old BGS Radio Society crew an update. For the benefit of the new people on the mailing list, I am repeating some of the information that I gave last time.

During the past year I was delighted to meet John Stott ex-G3MAB and Tony Fell ex-G3LXF again after over 55 years. It was good to catch up with what we have been doing over most of our lives! Also, I enjoyed a fortnight's holiday in Florida, staying with Margaret Noble, sister of David ex-G3MAW. It was interesting to learn that David now lives in Torquay, although he is no longer a licensed radio amateur.

Many of you will be unaware that I have set up a website of archive material of the old Radio Society. Included are photos, *Bradfordian* reports and *The Ham* magazine and I shall be adding the first page of this, and previous newsletters. The web address is www.g4dmp.co.uk/g3mhb

Sadly, not many of us are still active on the air these days. Antenna limitations at my house currently restrict amateur radio activity. But I do get out reasonably well on the 5, 7 and 10 MHz bands, particularly on CW and data modes. I currently use Elecraft equipment self-assembled from kits; see elecraft.com

For anyone who has let their licence lapse, it is a simple matter to get it reinstated. Initially it will cost you £20, but it is then free for life provided it is revalidated on-line at least every five years. Do let me know if I can help in this regard.

For interest, I have made available on the web all the past RAE written papers at

www.g4dmp.co.uk/rae Some of the more recent City & Guilds multiple-choice question papers and examiner's reports are at www.g4dmp.co.uk/reports

It was good to see several references to the Radio Society in an excellent book published last year: *All this we did – Haec Egimus – Bradford Grammar School 1949-63* by David Moore, available from the OBA at £20, and well worth it.

We have tried, previously, to organise on-the-air skeds but these were short lived due to band conditions and other factors. If anyone would like to suggest how we could we try this again I am open to suggestions.

As before, I am sending this to all known past members of the Bradford Grammar School Radio Society that I have managed to trace by reference to call books, QRZ.com, phone books and addresses passed to me by others.

As well being in contact on the air I am in touch with many of you by e-mail. It is always good to keep in touch with old friends. Long may this continue.

73

David M Pratt
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30th March 2014

If this letter does not make sense to you, I have obviously made a mistake in addressing it. Please destroy it and accept my sincere apologies for bothering you.