



## Ridgeway Repeater Group News Letter: First Quarter 2017

Website: [www.rrg.org.uk](http://www.rrg.org.uk)

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### 1: Chairperson's resignation.

It is with sadness we report that Neil M6CUE has offered his resignation as Chairperson & News Letter compiler, due to over whelming commitments at home and he feels that he cannot continue with the same dedication he has shown in the past. We wish him all the best and will be very glad that still wants to be a member of the RRG.

### 2: AGM Date

This years AGM will be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 19:30 in the offices of Thrings LLP, 6 Drakes Meadow, Penny Lane, Swindon, SN3 3LL. Just a gentle reminder subscptions will due on this date for year 2017/18 thank you.

### 3: Articles

Any Articles that members would like published in the News Letter please send them by email to [kenpow\\_99@yahoo.com](mailto:kenpow_99@yahoo.com). Pictures are acceptable please use the format of Jpeg as it keeps sizes to a minimum and please use Word format documents, thank you.

#### **4: TD's Interference Issue.**

This article has been compiled by myself, G1NCG with all the data from Rob G4XUT without whose assistance it would not have been possible.

As most users will know that TD is plagued by a pulsing type of interference around 434.675 MHz every second or less which affects received transmissions from TD in the Swindon area. TD is operating CTCSS squelch so is not kept open by the pulses. The frequencies involved are 433.075 to 433.575 and 434.650 to 434.700Mhz and could be wide band. The band is heavily used by low power devices between these frequencies. The interference is intermittent and not 24/7 and seems to start up at around 08:00 and terminates mostly at around 18.00 Monday to Friday and has been heard occasionally at week-ends. The interference with the strongest signals have been found around the area of the Great Western Surgery, Farriers Close, near Wickes Superstore, Gypsy Lane with the railway line in between preventing further investigations. Rob has performed these investigations attempting to locate a definite source of this pulsing noise without success.

Rob has asked Ofcom to take a look at the interference we experience when using TD, which has been carried out but resulting in no firm resolution. However further investigation will be continuing. If anybody has any further knowledge about this interference, please inform Rob via [g4xut@rrg.org.uk](mailto:g4xut@rrg.org.uk) .

So we still have our interference issue and need to find a solution there are possibilities to ask for a wider 7.6Mhz split on the frequency TD uses which would entail realigning the filters. We could also ask for a different frequency but there is no guarantee we would get it, so we need to discuss this until we can find a solution, in the mean time we will continue to pinpoint the interference's location.

A new replacement antenna for GB3TD and GB7TC has been purchased by the RRG. It will be installed later in the year when conditions are more favourable.

## 5: My Brief Encounter with the French Resistance - By Rob G4XUT

In the town of Bergerac in the Dordogne area of Southwest France, Rob G4XUT, came across an interesting wall plaque commemorating the first French resistance radio transmission in World War II (see photos) located in the square named after Louis de La Bardonnie.



The actual transmission site was at his family home, La Roque Castle at Saint-Antoine de Breuilh which is 33km West of Bergerac.

Louis de La Bardonnie, born October 11, 1902, died in 1987, owner-winemaker at Saint Antoine-de-Breuilh in the [Dordogne](#), was a member of the [French Resistance](#) during [World War II](#). His code name was "Isabelle" & he joined the resistance in June 1940.

He was one of the first to be recruited by [Gilbert Renault](#), codename Remy, into the network that was later to become [Confrérie Notre-Dame](#) (Notre Dame Brotherhood or CND). With his friends Paul Armbruster (alias "Alaric"), du Fleix, Pierre Beausoleil (alias Pierrot) and his wife Simone, Dr. Gaston Pailloux (alias "Alceste"), Paul Dugler and others, he harvested a lot of information valuable for the allies.

At the end of November 1940, he was charged with developing and organizing the [CND-Castille](#) network.

Louis de La Bardonnie organized checkpoints along the demarcation line & he was responsible for creating sub-networks from Bordeaux and Brest.

The first transmitter in the French free zone was set up at La Roque Castle in February 1941. & the first radio link with London took place on March 17, 1941.

Denounced, Louis de La Bardonnie was arrested on 16 November 1941. He was interrogated and interned in the camp of [Mérignac](#) but he was finally released in the spring of 1942 due to the lack of evidence.

He narrowly escaped the [Gestapo](#) in 1943 and then led a wandering life until the [Battle of Rocamadour](#), where, wounded in battle, he was obliged to stand down.

He was awarded several medals including the Distinguished Service Order, Commander of the Legion of Honour, the Cross of the resistance volunteer combatant & the Resistance medal.

The Chateau & vineyard are still owned by his family.

Below is a photo of Louis de La Bardonnie with General de Gaulle & another showing the type of radio equipment used by the Resistance in World War 2.



Clandestine radio made from used parts by the French Resistance.