

South Bristol Amateur Radio Club

Whitchurch Folkhouse Association, Bridge Farm House, East Dundry Road, Whitchurch, Bristol. BS14 0LN

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Internet <http://www.sbarc.co.uk>



Les Wooldridge - Radio Amateur - G1HFJ

Died Thursday 10th May 2007 Aged 77 years

Les is remembered with great affection by all that knew him.

I first heard Les transmitting on CB Radio in the late 1970's. He gloried under the 'handle' of CONSUL ONE, acting as a SAGE and WIT to all those who were lucky enough to hear him.

Renowned for his lengthy 'overs', he was the lynchpin of CB Radio in South Bristol. His rich voice was instantly recognisable, proving to be a magnet for middle aged users of CB.

The saga of the migrating 'Flying Kippers' ran for many months, with members of the group solemnly discussing the subject. Naive young listeners frequently called in for more information on the best time to observe the migration. They were somewhat surprised to discover the protective properties of 'Kipper Grease' when applied to their Aerials.

In the early 1980's he joined a number of enthusiasts to form The South Bristol Amateur Radio Club. His membership number (007) seemed to be most appropriate considering his many adventures. Indeed many hours on CB and Amateur Radio were enlivened by his stories.

Les soon passed the Amateur Radio Licence Examination (RAE) and was allocated the callsign G1HFJ. This proved simple to memorise as 'Heavenly Fruit Juice'. As the South Bristol Amateur Radio Club (SBARC) prospered, so did the contribution from Les, soon becoming a Committee Member.

Christmas Socials were enlivened by his presence in various forms of attire. The most memorable being the appearance of Les's brother. (Les in a Wig. "Les couldn't come, I'm his brother.") and the smartly dressed RAF Service Policeman.

His efforts at 'home-brew' equipment was the stuff of legends. What he lacked in ability, he compensated with enthusiasm.

His ownership of an unlikely range of motor vehicles is another facet of an extraordinary man. Who for example, will forget him posing for the Evening Post photographer whilst standing on the ROOF of his Mark 1 Ford Consul ?

Needless to say, we never knew what car he would use to visit the Club !

For all that, he was a skilled car mechanic - I gave him a Ford Escort Diesel that he rapidly restored to MOT standard.

What a man, what a legend. He will be missed.

Len Baker

G4RZY Secretary S.B.A.R.C.