

Re Albert John Mathews, the original G6QM

Albert (Bert) Mathews was born 29 Jan 1913 at Newton Road, Hornsey, N8.
He was married 22 Oct. 1949 at St Lukes, Hornsey (Wood Green)
He died 28 Dec. 1978 at Ashlands Road, Cheltenham.

Bert's father was, we understand, connected with the grinding of optical lenses, some of which were of quartz. Bert did speak of trying to grind some down for use in oscillators.

He obtained an Artificial Aerial licence, callsign unknown. By July 1935 he had the call G6QM, limited to 10 W Enclosed are old photocopies of 2 pages of his 1835 logbook.

By 1937, with the help of the RSGB, his licence was amended to allow 25 W. He was then living at 74 Hawthorn Road, Hornsey, N8. Copies of documents enclosed.

At some date before the WW2, he had a number of QSO's on what I suppose we would call the 5 m band (52-59 MHz)

In 1939 his equipment was impounded and returned after WW2. That shown in one of the photographs was we think in use still after 1949.

He was apparently working for the Foreign Office. He was somewhat disabled having had an attack of polio at some date.

He married in 1949 in Hornsey and continued his interest in radio.. He took part in a number of contests. Enclosed is a 1952 letter to him, at 26 Hillfield Avenue, Hornsey, granting permission to operate portable for NFD, with a power limit of 5 W.

In the mid-late 1950's he was transferred to GCHQ in Cheltenham where he became well known and liked.

He was for many years a QSL sub-manager for the RSGB. He dealt with all the G6+2, G6+3, G8+2 and G8+3 calls. In those days G6+3 calls were A class licences to be used with TV transmissions.