Equipment Sale – G3VXM(sk)

This list contains details of equipment from the shack of G3VXM (sk). I have carried out tests on all of the items. For signal generation I use my Siglent Network Analyser's tracking generator which is good to ±1dB; for transmit tests I use power attenuators and a 350MHz Tektronix 2465A oscilloscope, the Siglent Spectrum Analyser, or a Diamond SX-400 power meter. Results of the tests are given in the description. If a function isn't reported in the test results then I haven't tested it.

Working and tested radios:
- Yaesu FT-8900 10/6/2/70 FM mobile transceiver
- Key KME80 4m FM mobile transceiver
- Ranger RCI-5054 6m all mode transceiver
- Realistic PRO-57 VHF/UHF 10ch FM scanner

Working and tested power amplifiers:
- RM VLA-150 6m 100W power amplifier
- Pye A200 4m FM power amplifier
- Microwave Modules 144/100P 2m 100W power amplifier

A general note about power amplifiers
The power output reported in tests is the maximum power available and corresponds to performance with FM or CW. For SSB or data modes peak power output will be less and you should check with other band users to ensure you are radiating a clean signal. I checked and aligned trimmers in tuned circuits to maximise output power and improve input match if necessary. All the amplifiers have RF sensing to switch between tx and rx, some have a Ptt input too.

In need of repair:
- Yaesu FT-8900 not working on 2m, up to spec on 10/6/70
- Microwave Modules 432/50 70cm 50W power amplifier. Intermittent output power level.

The equipment is offered for sale as is, it comes with no warranty and no returns. Cosmetically, unless the condition is stated, some paint may be missing and there are some scuffs and scratches.

Contact me to reserve an item. The equipment can (preferably) be collected from my home in Southampton or I will ship at cost via Hermes collect/insured/signed-for. I won't be using the Royal Mail as I don't consider my local convenience store/Post Office to be Covid-safe.

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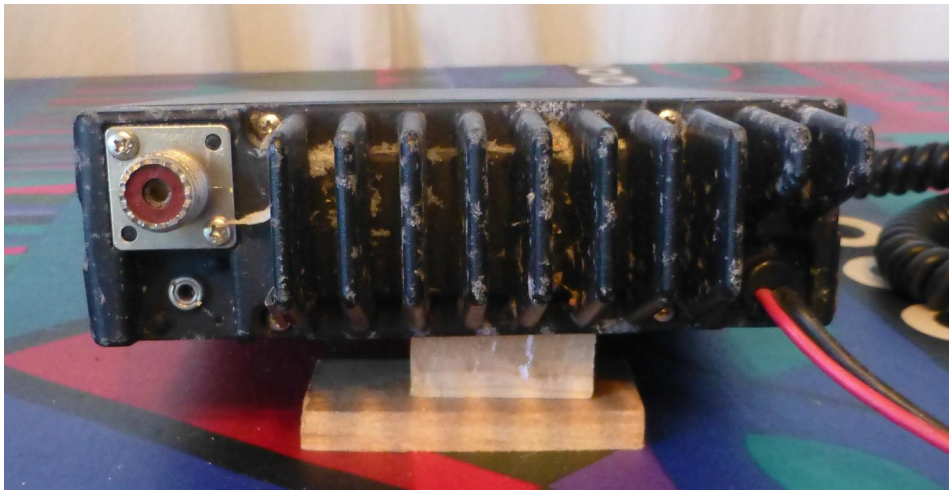
Yaesu FT-8900 Multiband FM transceiver £200

This radio is in very good condition. On my power meter it delivers 45W on 10m/6m/2m and 35W on 70cm as per the specification. On receive I don't have the equipment to measure SINAD so I set my signal generator and attenuators at the level that produced a slightly noisy silence. On 10m and 6m this is at -130dBm, on 2m and 70cm it's at -140dBm. For reference -120dBm corresponds to S1 so the receiver works very well.

The 8900 comes with the mounting bracket, standard microphone and power cable. It's not in the original box and there's no printed manual (available from Yaesu's website). One of these has just sold on Ebay for £250.

Key KME80 4m FM transceiver £25 “get on 4 4 less”

I describe this KME80 radio as “a bit tatty”, but it works well. It provides 35W FM on 4m as per specification (power can be reduced by adjustment). Receive performance measured as described for the FT-8900 at the beginning of this catalogue is -130dBm, or 10 dB below S1 so its ears are as sharp as any radio for 4m. Supplied with microphone.



Ranger RCI-5054DX-100 6m 100W multimode £125

This radio is in very good condition. The receiver hears a signal at -130dBm (better than 0.1µV rms in 50Ω. The transmitter provides 100W on SSB and 50W on FM (as per spec). Power lead and microphone included. User manual available at https://fccid.io/C2R5054DX100/User-Manual/users-manual-237826

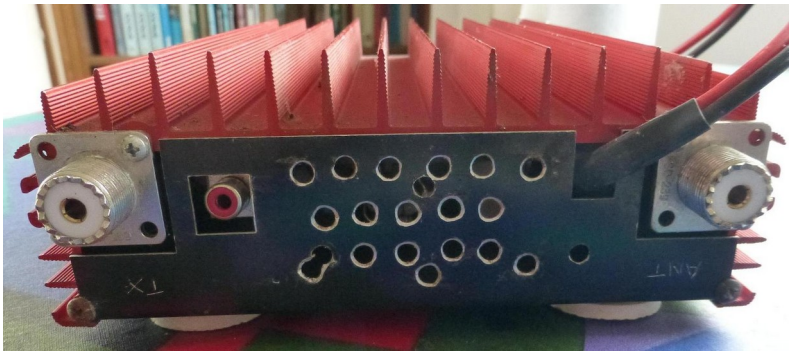
Realistic PRO-57 VHF/UHF 10ch FM Scanner £10

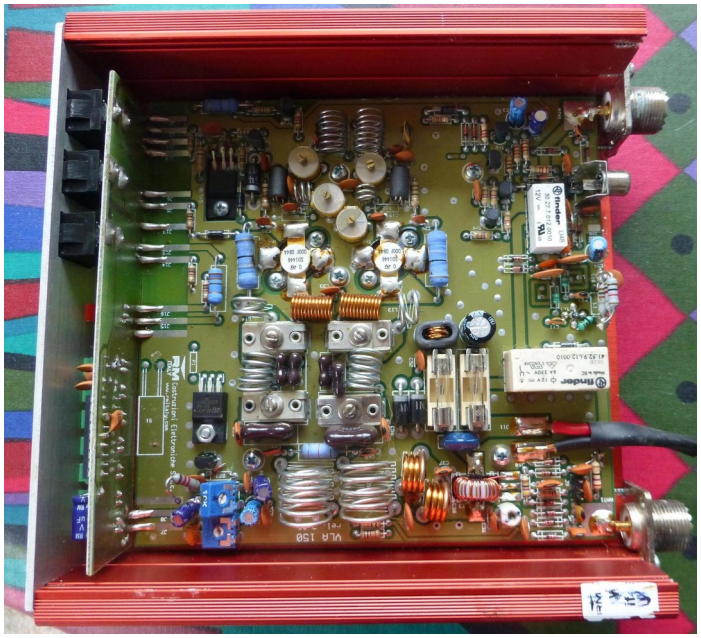
See http://www.rigpix.com/rs-realistic/realistic_pro57.htm From 5m away with a foot of wire antenna, it could hear my signal generator running 10mW into 3 inches of wire on 4m, 2m and 70cm. In slightly tatty original box with instructions (which I had to find as I'm not a scanner person). There are 3 antenna connections: on the back, what looks like a car radio antenna socket and a BNC socket (plug on short piece of RG58 coax provided). On the top there's a threaded bush on the top corner of the case for a whip antenna (not provided). It requires a 12v power supply with a 2.1mm dc plug, centre pin +ve (not provided).

6m - RM VLA 150 £75

On test this amplifier produced 100W output for 4W input. Current draw was 17.5A at 13.8v. The input showed less than 1.3:1 SWR. The preamp has enough gain to raise the noise level from a 6m vertical antenna. The preamp is enabled all the time. Ptt input on phono socket.

Cosmetically this amplifier has ventilation holes added in the back panel and some glue residue on the heat sink fins (I removed a toggle switch which connected to nothing and was glued into a gap in the heatsink fins)

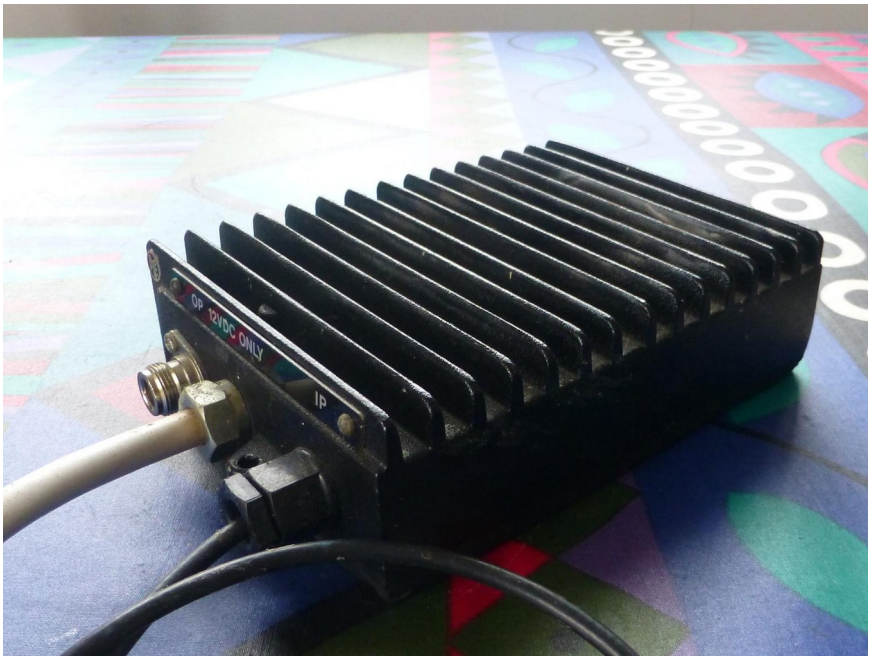




4m – Pye A200 E0 (low-band) variant £50

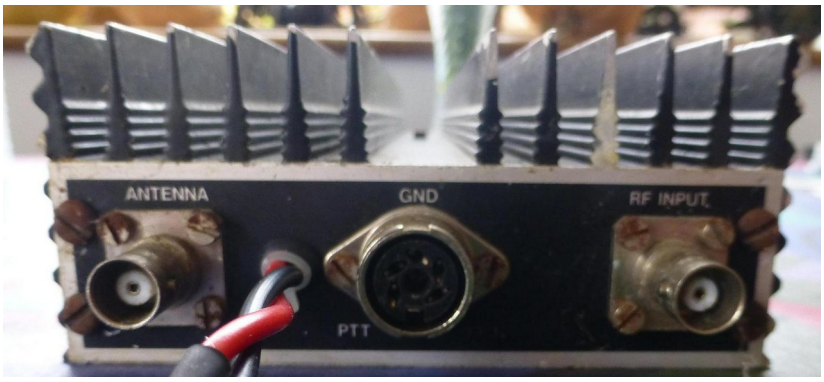
The amplifier runs from the usual 12 to 13.8v DC. I have set this unit up for maximum gain/power output and it produced 70W for about 10W input ; input SWR was 2:1. Current draw was 8.5A at 13v8. Input is by flying lead with BNC plug; output is N type socket. Power lead (as fitted by Pye) is a piece of mains cable; do NOT apply mains here! No documentation provided but it is easy to find on the internet.

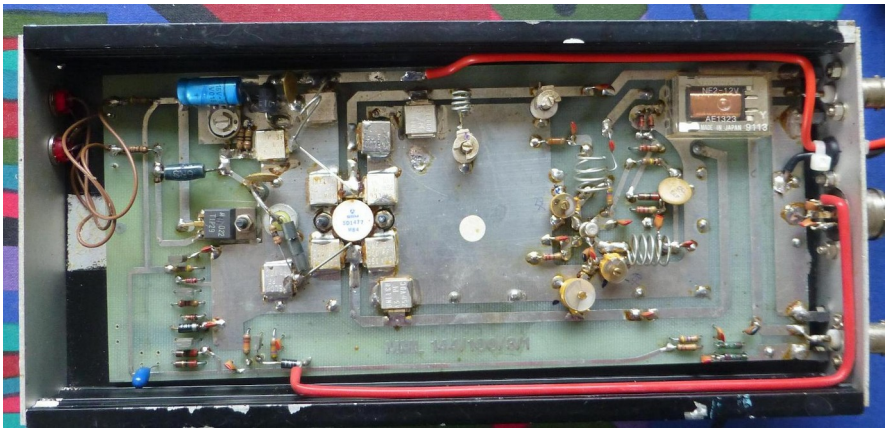
Note: the input circuit in the A200 is quite bizarre. It can be set up for lowest SWR presented to the driver transmitter, or for maximum gain/power output, but not for both. This A200 is NOT a linear amplifier; it is suitable only for FM.



2m - Microwave Modules MML 144/100-P £50

This amplifier produced 110W for 12W input. Current draw was 11A at 13v8. The input showed less than 1.3:1 SWR. The preamp has enough gain to raise the noise level from a 2m beam antenna. The preamp is enabled all the time on receive. The amplifier has BNC connectors. There's no documentation but there are no controls to describe! I can provide the circuits for the 144/100-S model which may give some clue.





In need of repair

Yaesu FT-8900 Multiband FM transceiver £65 or sensible offer

This radio is cosmetically in good condition. On my power meter it delivers 45W on 10m and 6m and 35W on 70cm as per the specification. On 2m there is no power output. Receive performance measured as described for the FT-8900 at the beginning of this catalogue is: 10m and 6m: -125dBm 70cm: -130dBm. For reference -120dBm corresponds to S1 so the receiver works very well on those bands. The radio doesn't receive on 2m.

The 8900 comes complete with the mounting bracket; there isn't a microphone but they are available on Ebay for about £6. The power cable is about 7 inches long.

70cm – MML 432/50 £10

On test the amplifier produced about 30W, drawing 6A at 13v8. However the output power fluctuated a few watts up/down.

END of list