

Longitude and Geoff swung his beam and confirmed that they may well be where they said they were.

He rung the Coast Guard at Great Yarmouth who contacted the Port Elizabeth Coast Guard and eventually they were rescued. Geoff said he was never contacted by the people involved.

I know Geoff was involved with Amateur Radio and the Falklands in 1982 but the 30 Year Rule prevented him talking about what he did. This 30 Year Rule ran out in 2012 so we can now talk about it!

What I do know is the British Government made a big play about not being in contact with the Falklands after it was invaded it. We now know differently. What I do not know is what he actually did with the MOD and the Falklands and Amateur Radio. Bob McLeod, VP8LP lived at Goose Green and contacted Laurie Margolis, G3UML who in those days was a BBC Reporter – he got the first BBC report from VP8LP that the Falklands had been invaded. Geoff Mills knew of this as well.

As part of his technical career, Geoff was also in charge of the part of the Chelmsford Technical College in which CARS Member Arthur Butcher, G3KPJ was a Laboratory Technician. It was Arthur with Geoff who put together an Amateur



Radio 2 metre portable (Yaesu FT202), 1 watt FM transceiver and connected it to the public telephone network.

Geoff Mills is second from the left. To his left is Roy Martyr, G3PMX, then Harry Heap, G5HF, then his boss during WWII but not known until 1975, Louis Varney, G5RV inventor of the famous G5RV Aerial and lastly Harry Lowe, G2HPF. To the right of Geoff is Geoff Cockerill, G2AMQ. The photo was taken outside the Marconi Training College in Arbour Lane – now a housing estate.

All are now Silent Keys but in their time were famous.

This was broadcast by the BBC on a Tomorrow's World programme in September 1979 and featured Michael Rodd. [Link for viewing here.](#)

Geoff was a prolific DX chaser and had a logbook detailing every Australian Radio Amateur he had contacted. The last one mentioned was #2,764. He used to contact Australia almost every day.

For more details about Geoff's life see <http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/society/g3edm-sk/g3edm.htm>

John G8DET

Geoff Mills G3EDM

Geoff Mills was involved with saving a person at sea from drowning.

Sometime in the late 1970s Geoff was tuning his receiver and heard a SOS – Mayday call.

He answered it thinking it was a hoax but the person at the other end said that they were off South Africa in a sailing yacht and had been struck by something and were sinking and could not raise anyone on the Maritime Distress frequency. They gave Geoff their Latitude and