

# TUNED IN

**Ken Taylor**, Museum volunteer and member of Oxford and District Amateur Radio Society (ODARS), explores how objects in the Marconi Collection worked.

## Marconiphone V2 Receiver



**Maker:** Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Company Ltd.

**Origin:** London, England

**Date Created:** 1920s-1930s

**Provenance:** Presented by the Marconi Corporation

**Materials:** Mahogany, glass, nickel, Bakelite, ebonite, celluloid, steel

**Inv:** 15836

The Marconiphone two-valve receiver type V2 was the first to be designed exclusively for broadcasting.

The original V2 receiver came to market in 1922, during a ban on a particular type of circuitry called regeneration, which — while more sensitive — could cause interference with other sets.



*Marconiphone V2 Receiver (Inv: 15836)*



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Within a few months of production, the engineers devised a method of applying regeneration to only the second stage, thus avoiding the interference.

This led to a revised model, the V2A, which became the company's most popular receiver, hitting the domestic market in 1923 just as the BBC came into existence.

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It was also called “long range”, but this could have been marketing hype.

The set used two valves type DER in a reflex TRF circuit, with a number of plug-in coils, called the Range Block and Regenerator Units, to cover the range 200 – 2900 metres, although only the 300 – 530 range was fitted as standard to cover the BBC stations.

Three sockets were provided for aerial connection depending on the length of wire available, and one for earth.

Two pairs of headphones could be used simultaneously or an external adapter could be purchased to allow four listeners.

Alternatively, an external amplifier could be attached to drive a loudspeaker.

Tuning was effected by rods on either side of the cabinet which moved a copper spade across the coils. A micrometer fine-tuning option was available. The set cost £19 4s 6d including accessories and royalties to the BBC, and 12s 6d per valve to the Marconi company.



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This was a very high price at the time but the company did offer hire purchase.