

# TUNED IN

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

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## GEC Bakelite Radio Receiver

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**Maker:** General Electric Co. Ltd.

**Origin:** England

**Date Created:** 1940s

**Provenance:** Presented by the Marconi Corporation

**Materials:** Bakelite, glass, plastic, copper, cardboard, metal, copper alloy

**Inv:** 95767

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This receiver was made some time in the 1940s and intended for the overseas market, specifically the British Empire.

It covers the medium wave band as well as two short wave bands providing coverage of all the frequencies used for international broadcasting, as well as radio amateurs.

The dial shows us that there are many references to the different frequencies used by the BBC's Overseas Service from Daventry so it was possibly intended for ex-pats abroad.

The circuitry was unremarkable for the period, a five valve superhet, AC powered with internal loudspeaker but requiring a separate aerial and earth.

There was also provision to connect a record player pick up. An additional external loudspeaker could be connected if required.

It was supplied with Osram valves for Empire markets and Gecovalve for other territories.

Volume and tuning controls are fitted to the front panel along with four pushbuttons to select waveband and power the set on and off.

There is tone control on the left-hand side also.