is excluded? In either case, I assume that there are gap dimensions that it would pay not to exceed.

In referring to the feeder termination length does this run around the corner (a) or not include the corner (b) as seems more likely? Again I thank you for a most interesting magazine. (J.L., Ravensthorpe, WA.)

● As far as the dipole length is concerned it does include the harness gap. Depending on whether you use standard antenna hardware or make your own the harness gap can be around 70mm or so. The "feeder termination length" is the length of the stub which means that the length of aluminium strip required is twice that value.

Incidentally, if you require a high gain antenna only for channel 11 it would be wise to consider the single channel Yagi designs presented in part five of the series, in the November 1983 issue. These antennas would be smaller than a log periodic array of similar gain and somewhat easier to make.

MUSICOLOUR IV: I have built the Musicolour IV for disco purposes and also to colour my room. Since I built it, people have asked me to do something similar for operation in a car and I think something can be done using the Musicolour IV circuit procedure. We can cancel the cost of the transformer and the rectifier diodes. (A.C., Bossley Park, NSW.)

● It would be no simple task to adapt the Musicolour circuit to use in a car, running from the 12V battery supply. For a start, the Triacs in the Musicolour run from AC and being a regenerative switching device, cannot be made to work on DC. By regenerative we mean that once the device is turned on it cannot be turned off unless the current drops to zero of its own accord or the supply voltage is reversed.

If a low voltage Musicolour device was designed it would have to use power transistors to drive the lamps. And probably heat dissipation in the transistors would be a problem so it would be necessary to use switchmode techniques to control the power to the lamps.

Frankly, we would be loathe to promote the use of a Musicolour device in cars anyhow. They might be permissible in boats, caravans and in the back of recreation vehicles but even there we are not convinced there would be much use for it. Unless we get some indication that readers are keen on the idea that is one that we will give a miss.

PORTABLE COMPUTER: I am going to buy a VZ200 soon and would really like a portable computer but I can not afford one. So I am writing to ask if you would publish a project which was fairly simple which has these features: LCD display as shown on the bottom of page 106 in your January issue, EPROM programmer, EPROM banking card, RS232 interface 2k RAM up-grade and a battery pack to power it and the computer. (M.C., Parkside, SA.)

● Sorry, but we cannot do it. If you wait a few years we are sure that such a computer will be cheap. It is not at the moment.

Notes & Errata

IGNITION KILLER (February 1984, File No 3/AU/38): There is a possibility of damage to the ignition coil in the event of the "killer" circuit being operated for an extended period. To prevent this, connect a 33Ω/5W resistor in series with the relay contacts.

HOW TO OBTAIN BETTER TV RECEPTION Pt 6 (March 1984, File No 6/MS/14): The parameter Bx in the formula is incorrectly defined. It should be half the angle of the virtual apex of the array. Also, in the formula for the relative length of the antenna, the divisor term should be Bs and not Bx. Note also the dipole length in each case includes the spacing between the respective harness connection points.