

Raspberry PI Internet Radio

Constructors Manual



Bob Rathbone Computer Consultancy

www.bobrathbone.com

1st of January 2016

Version 4.7

Contents

Introduction	11
Examples	12
Building in a IR sensor and remote control.....	15
Hardware	16
Raspberry PI computer	16
The HD44780 LCD display	17
Using the Raspberry PI model B+ an Model 2	17
Raspberry Pi Zero	18
Radio variants	20
Housing the radio.....	21
Wiring.....	22
Version 2 or model B+ boards (latest)	23
Version 1 boards (early boards).....	23
Rotary encoder wiring.....	23
LCD Module Wiring	24
Power supply considerations.....	25
Preventing electrical interference	26
Using a clip on ferrite core on the +5 volt cable	26
Fit a mains filter	26
Try a decoupling capacitors	26
GPIO Hardware Notes.....	27
Parts List.....	28
Construction HD44780 LCD.....	29
Building the LCD and pushbuttons interface board.....	29
Construction using an Adafruit LCD plate.....	31
Introduction	31
Using other switches.....	31
Using the Adafruit LCD plate with the model B+ and 2B.....	32
Construction using an I2C LCD backpack	33
Adafruit I2C Backpack	33
Arduino PCF8475 I2C backpacks	34
Creating the interface board for the I2C back pack.....	34
Construction using the PiFace CAD.....	35

Installing an IR sensor and remote control.....	36
IR Sensor.....	36
Remote control	36
Remote Control Activity LED.....	36
System Software installation	38
SD card creation.....	38
Conventions used in this tutorial.....	38
Online update and upgrade of the Operating System.....	38
Setting the time zone.....	39
Changing the system hostname and password	40
Installing or upgrading the radio Software	42
Music Player Daemon Installation	42
Install the Radio Daemon.....	42
Options 1, 2, 3 or 4.....	44
Options 5, 6 or 7.....	44
Option 8 PiFace CAD	45
Update the radiod.conf file.....	45
Reboot to enable the software	45
Testing the Music Player Daemon MPD	46
Installing the I2C libraries	46
Installing the PiFace software	49
Installing the Infra Red sensor software	49
Enabling the repeat on the volume control.....	52
Configuring the remote control activity LED	53
Configuring USB speakers instead of the analogue output	53
Configuring a CMedia USB dongle	54
Changing the date format.....	54
Configuring the Adafruit LCD backlight colours.....	55
Configuring the playlist number	55
Configuring startup mode for Radio or Media player.....	55
Upgrading from earlier versions	55
Operation.....	57
Starting the program.....	57
Buttons.....	58

Rotary encoder operation.....	59
Mute function	60
Playing MP3 and WMA files.....	60
Playing music from a USB stick	60
Playing music from the SD card	60
Playing music from a Network Attached Storage (NAS)	60
Organising the music files	60
MPD Logging	60
Radio program logging.....	60
Configuration and status files	61
Displaying an RSS feed	62
Using the Timer and Alarm functions	62
Setting the Timer (Snooze)	62
Setting the Alarm	62
Using the Alarm and Timer functions together	63
Music Player Clients	63
Using the MPC client.....	64
Adafruit RGB Plate changing colours	64
Shutting down the radio	64
Creating and Maintaining Playlist files.....	65
Creating playlists	65
The stationlist file.....	66
The playlists directory	67
Playing podcasts.....	67
Radio stream resources on the Internet.....	70
Overview of media stream URLs.....	71
PLS file format	72
M3U Files	72
ASX file	73
Direct stream URLs.....	73
Installing the Web interface.....	74
Install Apache.....	74
Test the Apache web browser	74
Install the Web Browser server pages	74

Start the radio web interface.....	75
Mounting a network drive	77
Finding the IP address of the network drive.....	77
The CIFS mount command.....	77
Older NAS drives sec security option.....	78
The NFS mount command	78
Display the share directory	78
Un-mounting the /share directory.....	79
Copy the mount command to the configuration.....	79
Load the music library.....	79
Update the playlists for the new share.....	79
Disabling the share.....	79
Further information	79
Source files.....	81
The LCD Class	81
The Radio Daemon.....	81
The Adafruit Radio daemon.....	81
The LCD with I2C backpack	81
The Daemon Class.....	82
The Radio Class	82
The Rotary class	82
The alternative Rotary class.....	82
The Log class	82
The Configuration Class	82
The RSS class	82
The Translate class.....	82
LCD test programs.....	82
Switch test programs	82
The create_playlists program	83
The create_podcasts.py program	83
The display_current program	83
The display_model script	83
The select_daemon.sh script	83
The remote control daemon.....	83

The UDP network communications class.....	83
Downloading the source from github.....	84
Contributors code	84
Miscellaneous	85
Using the Adafruit backlit RGB LCD display	85
Using a 4 line by 16 character LCD.....	85
Troubleshooting.....	86
LCD screen not working	86
The LCD only displays hieroglyphics	86
The LCD displays hieroglyphics or goes blank occasionally	86
LCD backlight not working	86
LCD only displays dark blocks on the first line.....	86
MPD fails to install	86
Music Player Daemon won't start	87
The MPD may display a socket error	87
ImportError: No module named mpd.....	87
PLS files won't load using MPC	87
Cannot start the radio daemon with sudo.....	88
The MPD daemon complains about the avahi daemon	88
Buttons seem to be pressing themselves	88
Radio daemon doesn't start or hangs.....	88
Stream decode problems.....	89
Cannot mount remote network drive.....	89
Button or Rotary encoder problems	90
Rotary switches not working	90
Volume control not working with USB speakers	90
The message "Check playlists" is displayed	90
Noisy interference on the radio.....	91
Music is first heard at boot time then stops and restarts	91
USB device won't play.....	91
Unexpected message during an upgrade	92
Missing logrotate or other configuration files.....	92
Using the diagnostic programs	92
The test_lcd, test_i2c_lcd and test_ada_lcd programs	92

The test_switches program.....	93
The test_rotary_class.py program	93
The remote_control program	93
The display_model program	93
The display_current program	94
Configuring a wireless adaptor	95
Install the wireless adapter.....	95
Configure the adaptor.....	95
Explanation of the network fields.....	96
Operating the wireless interface	96
Troubleshooting the wireless adapter.....	97
Configuring a static IP address.....	97
Ethernet static IP configuration	98
Wireless LAN static IP configuration.....	98
Streaming to other devices using Icecast2	100
Inbuilt MPD HTTP streamer	100
Introduction to Icecast.....	100
Installing Icecast.....	100
Overclocking the Raspberry PI.....	101
Icecast2 Operation	102
Switching on streaming.....	102
Playing the Icecast stream on a Windows 7	103
Playing the Icecast stream on a Windows 10	104
Playing the Icecast2 stream on an Apple iPad.....	105
Playing the Icecast2 stream on an Android device	105
Visual streaming indicator	106
Administration mode	106
Troubleshooting Icecast2.....	109
Problem - Icecast streaming page says it can't be displayed.....	109
Problem – No Mount Point displayed.....	109
Problem - Cannot play the stream on my Android device.....	109
Problem – Music keeps stopping or is intermittent	109
Controlling the Music Player daemon from Mobile devices	110
Android devices.....	110

Apple devices	110
Frequently asked questions (FAQs)	111
What is the login name and password?	111
Why are the radio stations not in the order that they were defined?	111
Why are some station names not being displayed in the web interface?	111
Why doesn't the web interface display URLs until a station is selected?	112
Why are music tracks played randomly when loaded?	112
Why not display volume as blocks instead of Volume nn?	112
Why do I see a row of minus signs on line 3 of a four line display?	112
Why do I see a station number on line 3	113
Is it possible to change the date format?	113
Is there a pause & resume function.....	113
Why do I see a different station name from the one in the playlist.....	113
What Rotary Encoder can I use for this project.....	113
Licences.....	114
Intellectual Property, Copyright, and Streaming Media	114
Disclaimer.....	115
Technical support.....	115
Acknowledgements.....	116
Glossary.....	117
Appendix A - System Files used by the Radio Program	119
A.1 Files added to the system	119
A.2 System files modified by the installation.....	122
Appendix B – Wiring diagrams.....	124
B.1 Raspberry Pi Rotary Encoder version with backlight dimmer	124

Figures

Figure 1 The completed classic style radio	12
Figure 2 Four line LCD radio in a clear case	12
Figure 3 Radio using the Adafruit LCD plate	12
Figure 4 Lego internet radio.....	12
Figure 5 Pi radio using rotary encoders	13
Figure 6 Old Zenith radio using rotary encoders	13
Figure 7 Zenith radio rear view	13
Figure 8 Zenith radio top view	13
Figure 9 PiFace CAD Radio with IR Remote Control	14
Figure 10 The Radio running on a Pi Zero	14
Figure 11 Boom Box radio front view	14
Figure 12 Boom Box Radio rear view	14
Figure 13 IR Sensor and Remote control	15
Figure 14 Adafruit and IR sensor and activity LED	15
Figure 15 Raspberry PI Model B Computer	16
Figure 16 The HD44780 LCD display	17
Figure 17 Raspberry PI Model B+.....	18
Figure 18 Raspberry Pi Zero	18
Figure 19 USB Ethernet adapter	18
Figure 20 Raspberry PI B+ AV cable	19
Figure 21 Switch Wiring version 1 boards	23
Figure 22 Rotary Encoder Diagram	23
Figure 23 Rotary encoder with push switch	24
Figure 24 Clip on ferrite core	26
Figure 25 Loop +5V supply around the core	26
Figure 26 Various mains filters.....	26
Figure 27 Integrated mains socket and filter	26
Figure 28 0.1 uF decoupling capacitor	26
Figure 29 GPIO Numbers.....	27
Figure 30 26 pin header extender.....	27
Figure 31 Radio parts	29
Figure 32 Interface board (Wiring side)	29
Figure 33 Interface board (Component side).....	30
Figure 34 Radio rear inside view	30
Figure 35 Adafruit LCD plate	31
Figure 36 Adafruit LCD plate with ribbon cable adapter	31
Figure 37 Adafruit I2C Backpack	33
Figure 38 LCD connected to an Adafruit I2C backpack	33
Figure 39 Arduino I2C backpack.....	34
Figure 40 Ciseco Humble PI I2C interface board.....	34
Figure 41 The I2C backpack interface board.....	34
Figure 42 PiFace CAD and Raspberry PI	35
Figure 43 PiFace CAD in a case.....	35

Figure 44 TSOP38238 IR sensor	36
Figure 45 LED polarity	36
Figure 46 Adafruit plate with IR sensor and activity LED	37
Figure 47 raspi-config start screen.....	39
Figure 48 Selecting the time zone.....	39
Figure 49 Saving the timezone.....	40
Figure 50 Changing the raspberry PI password	40
Figure 51 raspi-config advanced options	41
Figure 52 Changing the hostname	41
Figure 53 Adafruit LCD and I2C block diagram (From Open Electronics Magazine).....	47
Figure 54 The I2C bus display using the i2cdetect program	48
Figure 55 Example Podcast from the BBC.....	68
Figure 56 Radio web interface	75
Figure 57 Snoopy web interface	76
Figure 58 Over-clocking the Raspberry PI.....	101
Figure 59 Icecast2 Status	103
Figure 60 Streaming in the Firefox Web Browser	104
Figure 61 Selecting Windows Media Player.....	104
Figure 62 Windows media player	105
Figure 63 Icecast admin login	106
Figure 64 Icecast Global Server Status.....	107
Figure 65 Icecast2 Mount point information.....	108
Figure 66 MPDroid set-up screen	110
Figure 67 MPDroid play screen.....	110
Figure 68 MPDroid play queue	110
Figure 69 Wiring Raspberry Pi Radio Rotary Encoder version	124

Tables

Table 1 Radio variants.....	20
Table 2 Controls and LCD wiring	22
Table 3 Parts list.....	28
Table 4 Remote Control Activity LED	37
Table 5 IR Sensor Pin outs.....	50
Table 6 Remote Control Key names and functions.....	52
Table 7 Push Button Operation.....	58
Table 8 Rotary Encoder Knob Operation	59
Table 9 Playlist files and directories.....	65
Table 10 Adafruit backlit RGB display wiring	85

Introduction

This manual describes how to create an Internet Radio using the Raspberry PI educational computer. The source and basic construction details are available from the following web site:

http://www.bobrathbone.com/raspberrypi_radio.htm

This manual provides a detailed overview of construction and software. It contains instructions for building the radio using either the HDD44780 LCD directly wired to the Raspberry PI GPIO pins or alternatively using an either an Adafruit RGB-backlit LCD plate or the PiFace Control and Display (CAD) . An I2C backpack is also now supported. It can be constructed using either push buttons or rotary encoders.

The features of the Raspberry PI internet radio are:

- Raspberry PI running standard Music Player Daemon (MPD)
- Four different LCDs are supported
 - 2 x 16 character LCD with HD44780 controller
 - 4 x 20 character LCD with HD44780 controller
 - Adafruit LCD plate with 5 push buttons (I2C interface)
 - PiFace Control and Display (CAD) with IR sensor and buttons
- The LCD can be directly interfaced via GPIO pins or using the I2C interface
- Works with all revisions of the Raspberry PI including the model B+ and Model 2
- Can use an IR sensor and remote control
- Clock display or IP address display (for web interface)
- Five push button operation (Menu, Volume Up, Down, Channel Up, Down)
- As alternative to the above rotary encoder switches may be used
- Timer (Snooze) and Alarm functions
- Artist and track scrolling search function
- Plays music from a USB stick, SD card or from a Network drive (NAS)
- Menu option to display a single RSS news feed
- Web interface using snooppy and others
- Control the radio from either an Android device or iPhone and iPad
- Plays Radio streams or MP3 and WMA tracks
- Output either using the analogue audio jack or a USB speaker set.
- Play output on PC or on a mobile device using ICECAST streaming
- Playlist creation program using a list of URLs
- Create playlists from Podcasts (Netcasts)
- Fully integrated with mobile apps such as Android MPDroid or Apple mPod
- Controlled by an Object Orientated Python application
- Support for European character sets (Limited by LCD capabilities)
- Easily installed using Debian packages

Note: This software only runs on **Debian Wheezy**. **Debian Jesse** which not yet supported.

This design caters for both the complete novice and more advanced constructors. Do not be put off by the size of this manual as it shows a lot of different designs. Simply read through it and decide which one is the best for you. Some examples are shown in the following pages.

Examples

Various examples of the Raspberry PI internet radio were built using this design.



Figure 1 The completed classic style radio

This classic style Internet Radio is built into a wooden case. This is using two four inch speakers and audio amplifier stripped out from an old pair of PC speakers. It has five buttons in all. The centre square button is the menu selection.



Figure 2 Four line LCD radio in a clear case

Example of the Internet Radio with a four line by twenty character compatible HD4478 LCD display. The transparent case was an old cream cracker box.



Figure 3 Radio using the Adafruit LCD plate

Example of the PI internet radio using an Adafruit RGB-backlit LCD plate for Raspberry PI from AdaFruit industries. It has five push buttons and is the easiest option to construct. If you want to build this into a case then don't use the buttons supplied with the kit but use external buttons.



Figure 4 Lego internet radio

Example of a fun radio built using this design and Lego from Alan Broad (United Kingdom). This really puts the fun back into computing.



Figure 5 Pi radio using rotary encoders

The rotary encoder switch version of the radio consists of a Raspberry Pi connected to an Adafruit 20 character x 4 line RGB LCD display housed. It is all housed in a LogiLink PC speaker set with two rotary encoder switches. The rotary encoders also have push buttons (Push the knob in). The left one is the *Mute* switch and the right one is the *Menu* switch. The blue glow in the sub-woofer opening comes from a bright blue LED.



Figure 6 Old Zenith radio using rotary encoders

Example of the Pi radio from James Rydell built into an old Zenith valve radio case. The pictures below show the inside and top view respectively. The two original controls have been replaced by two rotary switches. The old valve radio inside has been completely removed and replaced with the Raspberry Pi and radio components. The LCD display has been built into the top so as not to spoil the original face of the radio. This is a fine example of what can be done with this project.



Figure 7 Zenith radio rear view



Figure 8 Zenith radio top view

More on the next page.



Figure 9 PiFace CAD Radio with IR Remote Control

Edition 4.0 onwards of the radio supports the PiFace Control and Display (CAD) board. This is a good choice for complete beginners. See: http://www.piface.org.uk/products/piface_control_and_display/

This has 5 push buttons, a reset button (not currently used) and an Infra Red (IR) sensor. This has the advantage that it has inbuilt support for a remote control. It has one drawback in that the push buttons are on the bottom of the unit. The PiFace CAD uses the Serial Peripheral Bus interface (SPI) on the Raspberry Pi.

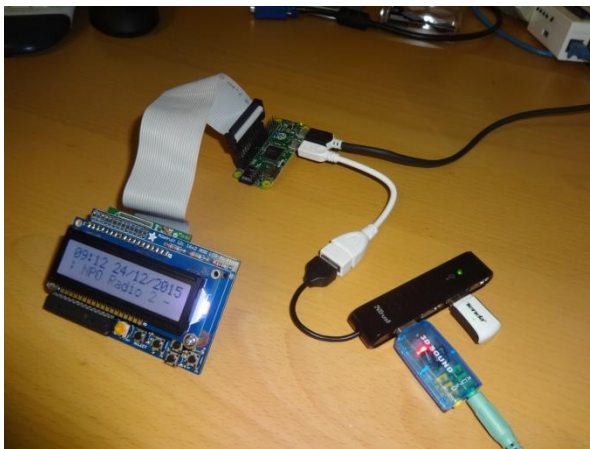


Figure 10 The Radio running on a Pi Zero

This is an example of the radio running on a Raspberry Pi Zero. In this example it uses a micro to standard USB adaptor to connect a simple USB hub. A USB sound dongle and Tenda wireless adapter are plugged into the USB hub. A USB to Ethernet adapter can also be used in place of the wireless adapter. The display used is the Adafruit LCD plate. Also note that the Pi Zero comes with an unpopulated 40 pin GPIO interface. You need to either directly solder wires to the GPIO interface (Not advised) or solder either a 26 or 40 pin male header (Advised).

This beautiful radio is a fine example of the latest version of the design. It is using a Raspberry Pi model 2B and rotary encoders with inbuilt push button. The display is a 4 x 20 LCD. The sound system is a Velleman 30 Watt amplifier (bottom right) and two 5 ¼ inch 50 watt speakers. It has an IR sensor (Left speaker on the right side) and an activity LED (between the two knobs).



Figure 11 Boom Box radio front view



Figure 12 Boom Box Radio rear view

There are many more examples of what people have done to house their PI radio but unfortunately they can't all be shown in this manual. For alternative ideas see the constructor's page at: http://www.bobrathbone.com/pi_radio_constructors.htm

Building in a IR sensor and remote control

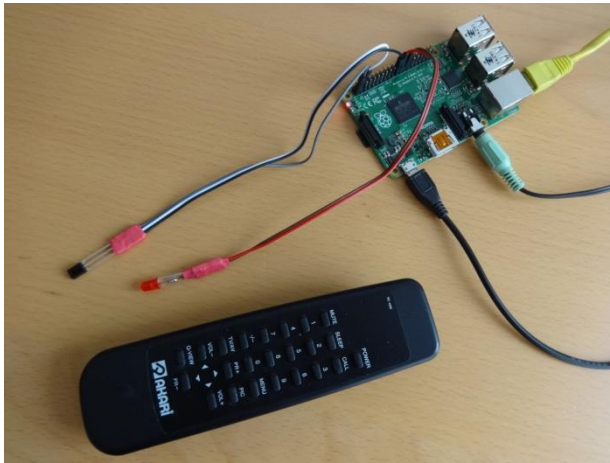


Figure 13 IR Sensor and Remote control

From version 4.1 onwards, the radio can be built with an IR Sensor and remote control. Also included is an activity LED which flashes when the remote control is used. A TSOP382xx series IR Sensor is used in conjunction with almost any remote control. An activity LED can also be added which flashes every time remote control signal is detected. This facility uses software from PiFace. See <http://www.piface.org.uk>

From version 4.7 onwards the remote control provides the same functionality as the buttons or rotary encoders. Previous versions could only change the volume and channel.

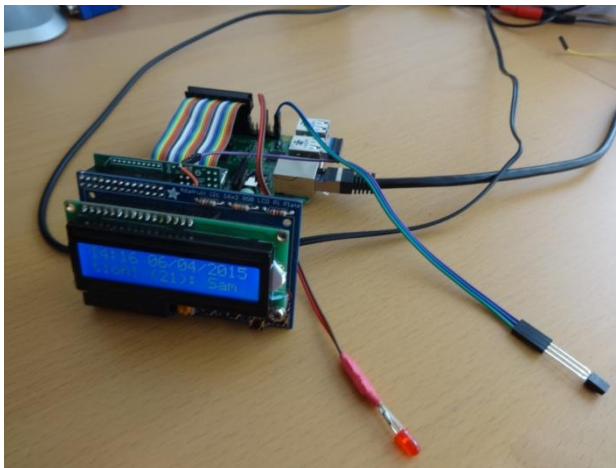


Figure 14 Adafruit and IR sensor and activity LED

From version 4.4 onwards the AdaFruit RGB plate can also be fitted with an IR sensor and activity LED but needs a model B+ or 2B (40 GPIO pins) and 26 pin extender as shown in Figure 30 on page 27.

Note that a 40 pin Raspberry PI is needed as the Adafruit Plate occupies needs all 26 pins on the 26 pin versions of the Raspberry PI.

Hardware

The principle hardware required to build the radio consists of the following components:

- A Raspberry PI computer
- An HD44780 LCD display or an Adafruit RGB-backlit LCD plate for the Raspberry PI
- LCD and switches interface board

Raspberry PI computer

The **Raspberry Pi** is a credit-card-sized single-board computer developed in the United Kingdom by the [Raspberry Pi Foundation](http://www.raspberrypi.org/) with the intention of promoting the teaching of basic computer science in schools.

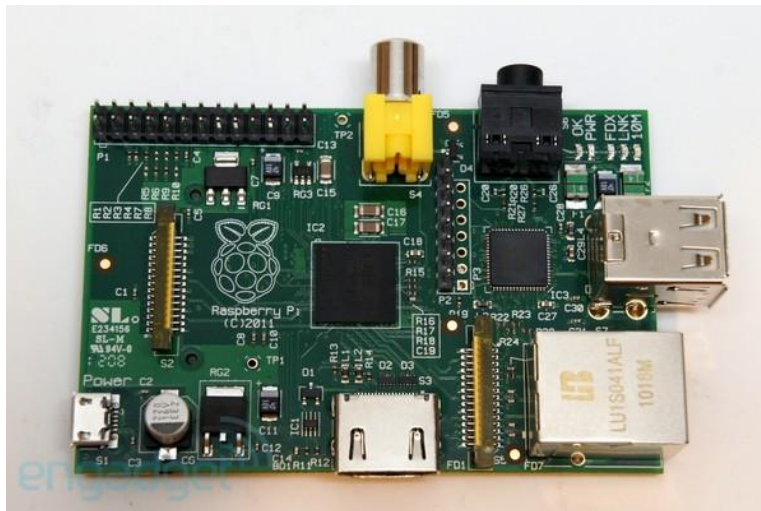


Figure 15 Raspberry PI Model B Computer

More information on the Raspberry PI computer may be found here:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raspberry_Pi

If you are new to the Raspberry PI try the following beginners guide. http://elinux.org/RPi_Beginners

The HD44780 LCD display



Figure 16 The HD44780 LCD display

The HD44780 LCD interface is an industry standard interface for a variety of LCD displays. These can come in various sizes but the two lines by 16 character display is the most popular. The software for this Internet radio also supports the four lines by twenty character display. Most of the 16x2 modules available are compatible with the Hitachi HD44780 LCD controller so there is a wide choice of these displays. For pin-out details see *Note*: Not all manufacturers' rotary encoders will work with this project. If they work then fine if not regrettably you will need to purchase the recommended encoders.

LCD Module Wiring on page 24.

Using the Raspberry PI model B+ an Model 2

In July 2014 the Raspberry PI foundation introduced the model B+ board. This has a different physical layout to version 1 and 2 boards and uses a micro SD card for the operating system.

The main features are:

- The B+ CPU and memory (512 MB) unchanged.
- Model 2 Pi has a 4 core CPU (BCM2836) and 1GB memory
- Four USB ports instead of 2
- USB Power limiting – switchable from 600mA to 1.2A.
- 40 Pin GPIO header with 26 usable pins instead of 17 (21 on the Rev 2)
- First 26 GPIO pins are compatible with model B rev 2 boards
- There is no longer any P5 or P6 connectors that were present on the model B.
- Composite video routed via the 3.5mm jack used for audio (Audio jack plug compatible).
- Micro SD card for the operating system.
- Round corners on the PCB and four equally spaced mounting holes.
- Improved power supply – 2 amp polyfuse on the input and SMPS 3.3 and 1.8v generators to replace the linear ones on the existing Pi.
- Improved audio output saving up to 1 watt according to the PI foundation

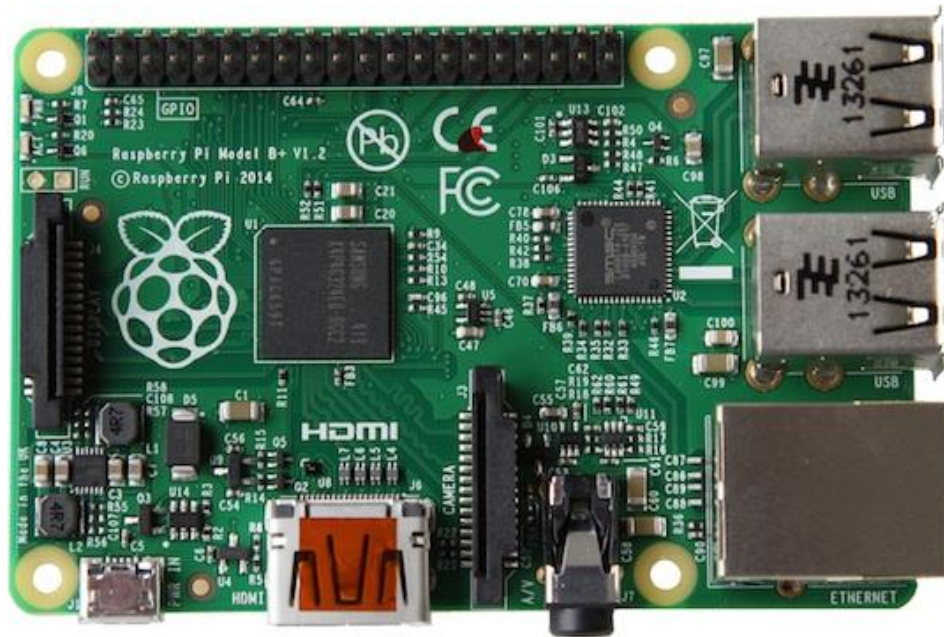


Figure 17 Raspberry Pi Model B+

The radio software works fine with the model B+ and model 2 boards. However these are some of the differences that you are likely to encounter:

- The new board will not normally fit into existing Raspberry Pi cases
- Existing 26 pin interface and prototype cards may not fit without a 26 pin header
- You can not fit a 26 pin ribbon cable into the GPIO header without a 26 pin header (See Figure 30 26 pin header extender on page 27)
- If using an Adafruit LCD plate; this will require insulating tape on top the USB ports to prevent them shorting out components on the Adafruit interface board.

Raspberry Pi Zero

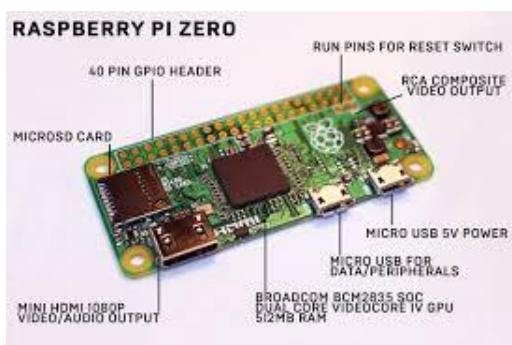


Figure 18 Raspberry Pi Zero

The Raspberry Pi Zero has had limited testing but seems to work fine. Network connection however is only possible with either a USB to Ethernet adapter or a Wifi Dongle. Note that the USB is a Micro USB and will need an micro USB to standard USB adapter



Figure 19 USB Ethernet adapter

The new AV (Audio/Video) port combines the audio and video signals in a single jack. Instead of using a standard composite cable, this new connector requires a 4 pole 3.5mm AV cable. To complicate matters: not all of these cables are the same! However existing audio jack plugs are compatible with the new AV connector.

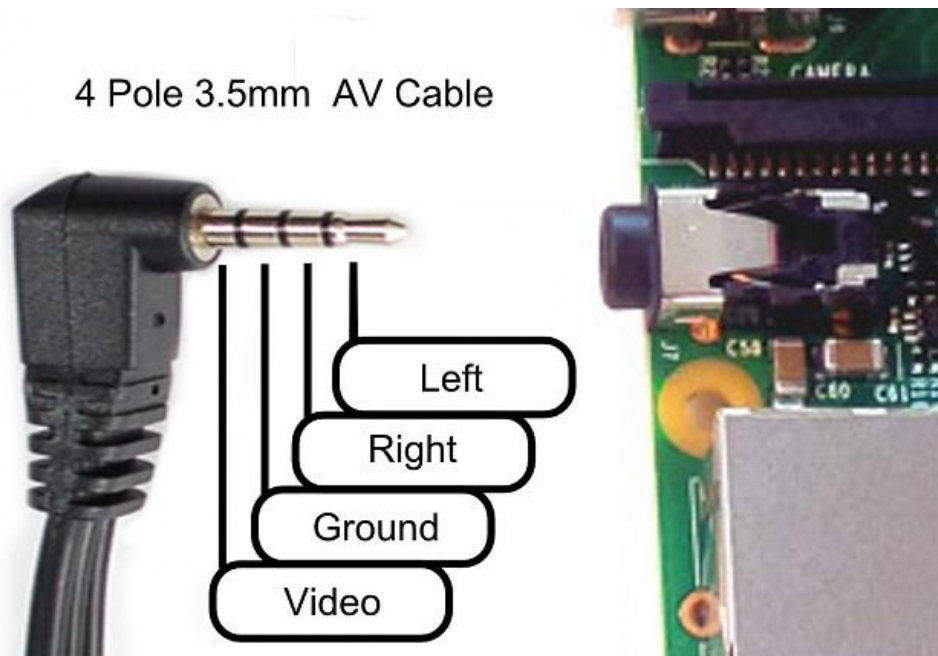


Figure 20 Raspberry PI B+ AV cable

When choosing a cable, seek an **iPod 4 pole AV** cable. This will however result in the left and right audio channels being reversed but otherwise provides the proper connections. Using other cables, such as a camcorder cable will be hit or miss. Typically camcorder cables have the wrong pin connections for Video and Ground.

This change also can cause some issues with shared grounding with audio speakers. If separate audio and composite AV connector is required, these can be split apart using the same jack inputs as for the model A and B.

Hopefully in the future component suppliers will supply adapters to split out the audio and video.

Radio variants

Before starting you need to make a choice which type of radio you are going to build. There are eight possible versions that can be constructed as shown in the following table.

Table 1 Radio variants

Variant	Description	Display Type	Controls	Program
1	Two line 16 character LCD with push buttons	Two line LCD	Five push buttons	radiod.py
2	Four line 20 character LCD with push buttons	Four line LCD	Five push buttons	radio4.py
3	Two line 16 character LCD with rotary encoders	Two line LCD	Two rotary encoders with push buttons	rradiod.py
4	Four line LCD with rotary encoders	Four line LCD	Two rotary encoders with push buttons	rradio4.py
5*	Adafruit LCD plate with push buttons	Two line LCD (via I2C interface)	Five push buttons (Via I2C interface)	ada_radio.py
6	Two line 16 character LCD with rotary encoders	Two line LCD (via I2C backpack interface)	Two rotary encoders with push buttons	rradiobp.py
7	Four line 20 character LCD with push buttons	Four line LCD (via I2C backpack interface)	Two rotary encoders with push buttons	rradiobp4.py
8**	PiFace Control and Display (CAD) using SPI interface	Two line LCD and Infra Red sensor	Five push buttons and a reset button.	radio_piface.py

* This is a good choice for a complete beginner but you will still need some soldering skills.

** If you have no soldering skills then this is the best choice as the board comes ready made

All of these use a different program at present as shown in the last column of the above table. Which one to use is a matter of personal choice. Variant 5 and 8 are good choices for a complete beginner.

The AdaFruit LCD plate or PiFace CAD are without a doubt the easiest to construct but can only use push buttons and not rotary encoders. The others require more effort but are worth the trouble.

It is then a simple choice of which display (two or four line) and whether to use rotary encoders or push button switches.

The rotary encoder options give the most natural feel for the radio as most conventional radios use knobs to control the volume and station tuning.

The four lines LCD can display more information. Options 6 and 7 interface using an I2C backpack from Adafruit industries and only uses two wires. The PiFace CAD has support for remote controls but tends to be more sluggish in operation than other variants.

Housing the radio

This manual describes a couple of ways of housing the radio. A few ideas are below:

- A custom built case as shown in this manual
- Old plastic boxes or food containers
- Construct a case using Lego
- Use a pair of speaker housings that have enough room
- Install in an old vintage radio (really cool)
- Use an old wooden wine box
- Use an old video recorder, CD player or desktop set

Take a look at the constructor's gallery at http://www.bobrathbone.com/pi_radio_constructors.htm to get some ideas that other constructors have used.

Note: Don't forget to make sure that there is adequate airflow through the radio housing to allow cooling of the Raspberry PI and other components. Drill at least five or six holes at the top and bottom of the housing.

Wiring

The following table shows the GPIO LCD interface wiring for both the push button and rotary encoder versions of the radio. If using the Adafruit LCD plate, skip this section (See *Construction using an Adafruit LCD plate* on page 31). This wiring works for both revisions 1 and 2 boards and the model B+ board. Refer to RPI Low level Peripherals page at http://elinux.org/RPi_Hub for more information on Raspberry PI low level peripheral wiring.

Table 2 Controls and LCD wiring

Pin	Description	Function	LCD pin	Push Buttons	Encoder (Tuner)	Encoder (Volume)
1	3V3	Push button supply		COMMON		
2	5V	5V for LCD	2,15			
3	GPIO2	I2C Data***				
4	Reserved					
5	GPIO3	I2C Clock***				
6	GND	Zero volts	1,3*,5,16		Common	Common
7	GPIO 4	Mute volume				Knob Switch
8	GPIO 14	Volume down		LEFT		Output A
9	Reserved**	GND				
10	GPIO 15	Volume up		RIGHT		Output B
11	GPIO 17	Channel Up		UP	Output B	
12	GPIO 18	Channel Down		DOWN	Output A	
13	GPIO 27(21)*	LCD Data 4	11			
14	Reserved**	GND				
15	GPIO 22	LCD Data 5	12			
16	GPIO 23	LCD Data 6	13			
17	Reserved					
18	GPIO 24	LCD Data 7	14			
19	GPIO 10					
20	Reserved**	GND				
21	GPIO 9	IR Sensor in				
22	GPIO 25	Menu Switch		MENU	Knob Switch	
23	GPIO 11	IR LED out				
24	GPIO 8	LCD E	6			
25	Reserved**	GND				
26	GPIO 7	LCD RS	4			

* LCD Pin 3 (Contrast) may be connected to the centre tap of a 10K preset potentiometer. See page 24. Pin 13 is GPIO27 on Rev 2 boards and GPIO21 on Rev 1 boards

** These pins were originally reserved and are connected to ground (GND 0V). These may now be used as extra GND pins.

*** These pins are used for the I2C LCD backpack if used instead of the directly wired LCD to GPIO pins.

Note: Make sure you are using the correct columns in the above table. Use column 5 (Push Buttons) for the push button version and the last two columns (Encoder Tuner/Volume) for the rotary encoder version.

Version 2 or model B+ boards (latest)

Wire one side of the switches to the 3.3V pin. Wire the other side of each switch to the GPIO pin as shown in the last column of the above table. This is the normal option. Version 2 boards have internal pull up/down resistors and don't require external resistors. In fact including these can cause problems.

Version 1 boards (early boards)

It is becoming increasingly difficult to support version 1.0 boards and you are advised to purchase a newer Raspberry Pi board for this project. However tips for using version 1 boards will be retained in this manual however if there is a problem regrettably no support can be provided.

Wire one side of the switches to the 3.3V pin. Wire the other side of each switch to the GPIO pin as shown in the last column of the above table via a 1K Ω resistor. Also wire this same side of the switch to the 0V pin via a 10K Ω resistor. See Figure 21 on page 23.

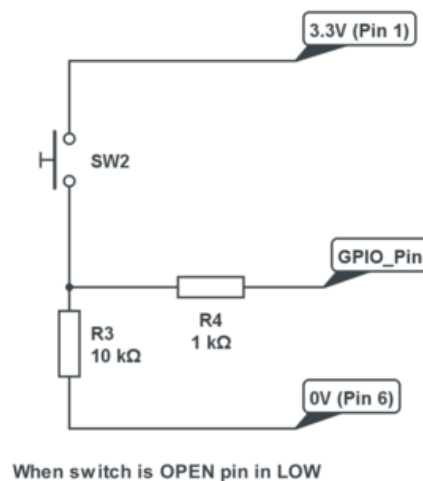


Figure 21 Switch Wiring version 1 boards

Note: The circuit will work without the 1K Ω resistor but is advised for extra protection for the GPIO input.

Rotary encoder wiring

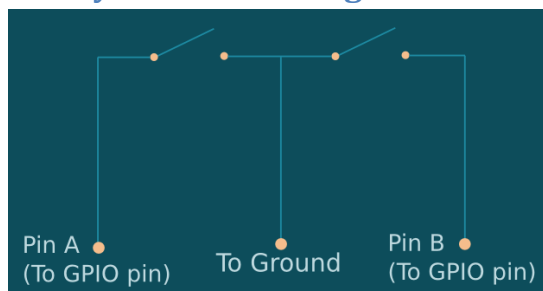


Figure 22 Rotary Encoder Diagram

Rotary encoders have three inputs namely Ground, Pin A and B as shown in the diagram on the left. Wire the encoders according shown in Table 2 on page 22. If the encoder also has a push button knob then wire one side to ground and the other to the GPIO pin. In the case of the mute switch this will be pin 7 (GPIO 4).

If using a Rev 1 board it is necessary to use 10K pull up resistors connected between the GPIO inputs of the rotary encoder outputs and the 3.3 volt line. Do not add resistors if using revision 2 boards and onwards.



Figure 23 Rotary encoder with push switch

This project uses a COM-09117 12-step rotary encoder from Sparkfun.com. It also has a select switch (by pushing in on the knob). These are “Incremental Rotary Encoders”. An incremental rotary encoder provides cyclical outputs (only) when the encoder is rotated. The other type is an absolute rotary encoder which maintains position information even when switched off (See Wikipedia article on rotary encoders). These tend to be bigger and more expensive due to extra electronics required. Only incremental encoders are used in this project.

Note: Not all manufacturers’ rotary encoders will work with this project. If they work then fine if not regrettably you will need to purchase the recommended encoders.

LCD Module Wiring

The following shows the wiring for the HD44780 LCD controller. It has 16 or 18 pins.

1. Ground (0V)
2. VCC (Usually +5V)
3. Contrast adjustment (0V gives maximum contrast)
4. Register Select (RS).
RS=0: Command, RS=1: Data
5. Read/Write (R/W). Very important this pin must be grounded!
R/W=0 (GND): Write, R/W=1 (+5V): Read. Will damage the PI if not grounded.
6. Enable
7. Data Bit 0 (Not required in 4-bit operation)
8. Data Bit 1 (Not required in 4-bit operation)
9. Data Bit 2 (Not required in 4-bit operation)
10. Data Bit 3 (Not required in 4-bit operation)
11. Data Bit 4
12. Data Bit 5
13. Data Bit 6
14. Data Bit 7
15. LED Backlight Anode (+5V) or Red LED (Adafruit RGB plate)
16. LED Backlight Cathode (GND)
17. Optional Green LED (Adafruit RGB plate)
18. Optional Blue LED (Adafruit RGB plate)

If the LCD being used comes with a 10K preset potentiometer supplied, then connect pin 3 of the LCD to the centre pin of the potentiometer. Connect the other two pins of the potentiometer to 5v and 0v respectively. Adjust the preset potentiometer for the best contrast.

The standard LCD comes with 16 pins. Adafruit supply an RGB backlit LCD with two extra pins namely pins 17 and 18. These are non-standard. These must be wired to ground (0 Volts) to work. For more information see the section *Using the Adafruit backlit RGB LCD display* on page 85.

Usually the device requires 8 data lines to provide data to Bits 0-7. However the device can be set to a “4 bit” mode which allows data to be sent in two chunks (or nibbles) of 4 bits. This is advantageous as it reduces the number of GPIO connections required by four when interfacing with the Raspberry Pi.

Power supply considerations

The Raspberry Pi uses a standard Micro USB (type B) power connector, which runs at 5 V. In general the Raspberry Pi can draw up to 700mA. Many telephone adapters deliver less than that and can lead to problems. You also need to consider the LCD screen which can also need up to 20mA but depends on the type of backlight.

Try to find an adapter that delivers at least 1.0 Ampere. Even better is 1.5 Amperes. See the following article. The new B+ model can draw up to 1.5 Amps if USB peripherals are attached.

http://elinux.org/RPi_VerifiedPeripherals#Power_adapters

The Raspberry Pi can be powered either the USB port or via the GPIO header (Pin 2). Some prototyping boards such as the Ciseco Humble Pi can provide power in this way.

See <http://shop.ciseco.co.uk/k001-humble-pi/>

This interface board can be ordered with an optional 5 volt regulator. If using the Humble Pi try with regulator use 6v to 7v as the power input to the Humble Pi 5v regulator (Not the Raspberry Pi).

Trying to use 9v or more will mean that the 5 volt regulator will get far too hot.

If using an adaptor or separate 5 volt Power Supply try to use a switched-mode power supply adaptor. This take less current and generate less heat that a power dissipation device. If a power supply is designed to be earthed then use a 3 core cable with live, neutral and earth wires.

Things not to do:

- Do not try to tap off power from the Power supply or transformer used by the speaker’s amplifier. This won’t work (earth loops) and can cause damage to the PI and peripherals.
- Do not feed power to the PI from two sources (USB hub and Power adapter). Try to use USB hubs that don’t feed 5 volts back through the USB ports of the Raspberry PI
- Do not connect an untested power supply to the Raspberry PI without checking the voltage first.
- Do not try to power the USB hub from the Raspberry PI although the Raspberry Pi foundation claims that this is now possible with the B+ model. Model A and B boards are unlikely to cope. Use a separately powered USB hub for model A and B boards.

You should try to use a single power supply switch for the radio. One technique which is quite useful is to split open a USB power adaptor (Use a hacksaw very carefully). Connect the AC power supply of the adaptor to the mains switch. This switch can also provide the mains supply to the speaker amplifier.



Always consider safety first and make sure that no-one including yourself can receive an electric shock from your project including when the case is open.

Preventing electrical interference

One of the most irritating faults that one can have is the LCD screen occasionally either going blank or displaying hieroglyphics especially when switching on and off other apparatus or lights on the same circuit. This is due to Electromagnetic Interference (EMI).

See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electromagnetic_interference for more information.

EMI can be caused by any number of sources such as fluorescent lighting, switching on and off equipment on the same circuit as the radio or even electrical storms. If you are using a standard Raspberry Pi USB power supply then you will probably not experience this problem as nearly all are fitted with a ferrite core (This is the big lump in the cable or may be built in). If you do experience this problem then try the following solutions one at a time in the order shown below. They can all be used together if required.

Using a clip on ferrite core on the +5 volt cable



Figure 24 Clip on ferrite core

One of the most effective solutions is to put a clip on ferrite core on the +5V cable going to both the Raspberry Pi and USB hub. Loop the wire through at least once. Even a single loop seems to be enough. Try this first!



Figure 25 Loop +5V supply around the core

Fit a mains filter



Figure 26 Various mains filters

Try using a mains filter. This has the advantage that it can prevent spikes coming in from the mains and protect against electrical storms. The picture on the right shows an integrated filter and panel mount mains socket.



Figure 27 Integrated mains socket and filter

Try a decoupling capacitors



Figure 28 0.1 uF decoupling capacitor

Try fitting 0.1 uF decoupling capacitors on so close as possible to the +5V supply coming into the LCD board. Connect between the +5V supply and GND (0V)

GPIO Hardware Notes

The following shows the pin outs for the GPIO pins on revision 1 and 2 boards. For more information see: http://elinux.org/RPi_Low-level_peripherals.

Note: The B+ and Model 2 B have the same pin-outs.

GPIO Numbers

**Raspberry Pi B
Rev 1 P1 GPIO Header**

	Pin No.	
3.3V	1	2
5V	3	4
GPIO0	5	6
GPIO1	7	8
GND	9	10
GPIO17	11	12
GPIO21	13	14
GPIO22	15	16
3.3V	17	18
GPIO10	19	20
GPIO9	21	22
GPIO11	23	24
GND	25	26

**Raspberry Pi A/B
Rev 2 P1 GPIO Header**

	Pin No.	
3.3V	1	2
GPIO2	3	4
GPIO3	5	6
GPIO4	7	8
GND	9	10
GPIO17	11	12
GPIO27	13	14
GPIO22	15	16
3.3V	17	18
GPIO10	19	20
GPIO9	21	22
GPIO11	23	24
GND	25	26

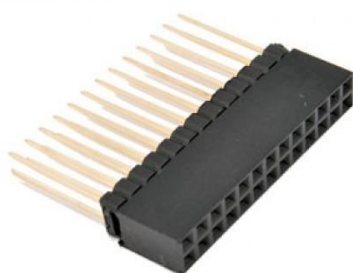
**Raspberry Pi B+
B+ J8 GPIO Header**

	Pin No.	
3.3V	1	2
GPIO2	3	4
GPIO3	5	6
GPIO4	7	8
GND	9	10
GPIO17	11	12
GPIO27	13	14
GPIO22	15	16
3.3V	17	18
GPIO10	19	20
GPIO9	21	22
GPIO11	23	24
GND	25	26
DNC	27	28
GPIO5	29	30
GPIO6	31	32
GPIO13	33	34
GPIO19	35	36
GPIO26	37	38
GND	39	40

Key

Power +	UART
GND	SPI
I²C	GPIO

Figure 29 GPIO Numbers



If connecting any interface board via a 26 way ribbon cable it will be necessary to fit a 26 pin header extender and plug the ribbon cable into it.

Figure 30 26 pin header extender

Parts List

The following table shows the parts list for the Raspberry Pi Internet Radio. This list is for the version using the HD44780 LCD directly connected to the GPIO pins. If using the Adafruit five button LCD Plate then don't order the parts marked with an asterisk (*)

Table 3 Parts list

Qty	Part	Supplier
1	Raspberry Pi Computer	Farnell Element 14
1	Clear Raspberry Case	RS Components
1	8GByte SD Card	Any PC or Photographic supplier
1	Wooden Radio Case	A good friend of mine
1	Raspbian Wheezy OS	Raspberry Pi foundation downloads
2	Four inch loudspeakers	From set of old PC speakers
2	Four inch loudspeaker grills	Any electronics shop
1	Stereo Amplifier (3 to 5 watt)	From set of old PC speakers
1	Transformer for amplifier	From set of old PC speakers
1	LCD HD44780 2 x 16 Display *	Farnell Element 14
1	ModMyPi Slice of Pi *	Ciseco PLC
4	Round push buttons *	Any electronics shop
1	Square push button *	Any electronics shop
2	Rotary encoders if using this option * **	Sparkfun.com
1	26 way ribbon cable	Tandy or Farnell Element 14
5	10KΩ resistors * (Revision 1 boards only)	Tandy or Farnell Element 14
5	1K resistors * (Revision 1 boards only)	Tandy or Farnell Element 14
1	Four port USB hub (Revision 1 & 2 boards only)	Any PC supplier
1	External power supply for USB hub (1200 mA)	Any PC supplier
1	26 way PCB mount male connector	Any electronics shop
1	26 way GPIO extender (model B+ boards only)	ModMyPi and others
1	Mains cable	Hardware shop
1	Double pole mains switch with neon	Farnell Element 14
5	Male 2 pin PCB mount connectors	Any electronics shop
2	Female 4 pin PCB connectors	Any electronics shop
1	Female 2 pin PCB connectors	Any electronics shop
1	16 pin male in-line PCB mount connector	Any electronics shop
1	Stereo jack plug socket	Any electronics shop
1	Panel mount Ethernet socket	Any electronics shop
1	Adafruit I2C LCD interface Backpack ***	http://www.adafruit.com/
1	PiFace Control and Display (CAD) ****	See http://www.piface.org.uk
1	TSOP38238 IR Sensor	Adafruit industries and others
1	Red or Green LED and 220 Ohm resistor	Any electronics shop
	Shrink wrap and thin wire for PCB wiring	Any electronics shop

* These components are not required if using the Adafruit LCD plate.

** If using rotary encoders.

*** If using the Adafruit I2C back (Note: This only works in combination with rotary encoders)

**** Only if using the PiFace Control and display.

Construction HD44780 LCD

The following is for an HD44780 LCD display directly wired to the GPIO pins. If using the Adafruit LCD plate see section called *Construction using an Adafruit LCD* plate on page 31.

The following illustration shows the parts for the classic style radio.



Figure 31 Radio parts

The above photo shows the components before assembly. See from back and left to right. A wooden case, mains cable, Raspberry Pi in a transparent plastic case, speaker grills, 5v power supply, 4 inch speakers, 2 x 16 LCD display, four port USB hub, stereo amplifier, five push button switches, 11.5v transformer for the stereo amplifier, ribbon cable and the LCD and push buttons interface board. Not shown is the (optional) USB wireless dongle.

Building the LCD and pushbuttons interface board



Figure 32 Interface board (Wiring side)

The LCD and push button interface was built using a ModMyPi Slice of PI from [Ciseco PLC](#) but a suitable prototype board will do. The board was fitted with 1 female 16 pin in-line connector for LCD and a male 26 pin connector for the 26 way ribbon cable. If no ribbon cable is to be used then use a female 26 way connector to plug into the Raspberry PI GPIO interface

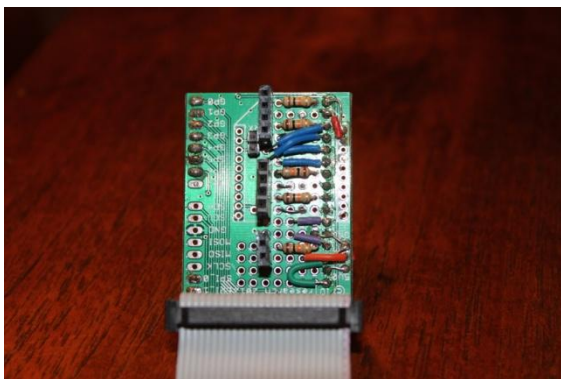


Figure 33 Interface board (Component side)

The component side of the LCD and push button shows the female connectors for five push button switches and the five 10KΩ pull down resistors. In this construction the 1KΩ resistors shown in Figure 21 Switch Wiring on page 16 weren't used but do provide some extra protection for GPIO inputs.

The following picture shows the components mounted in the wooden case.

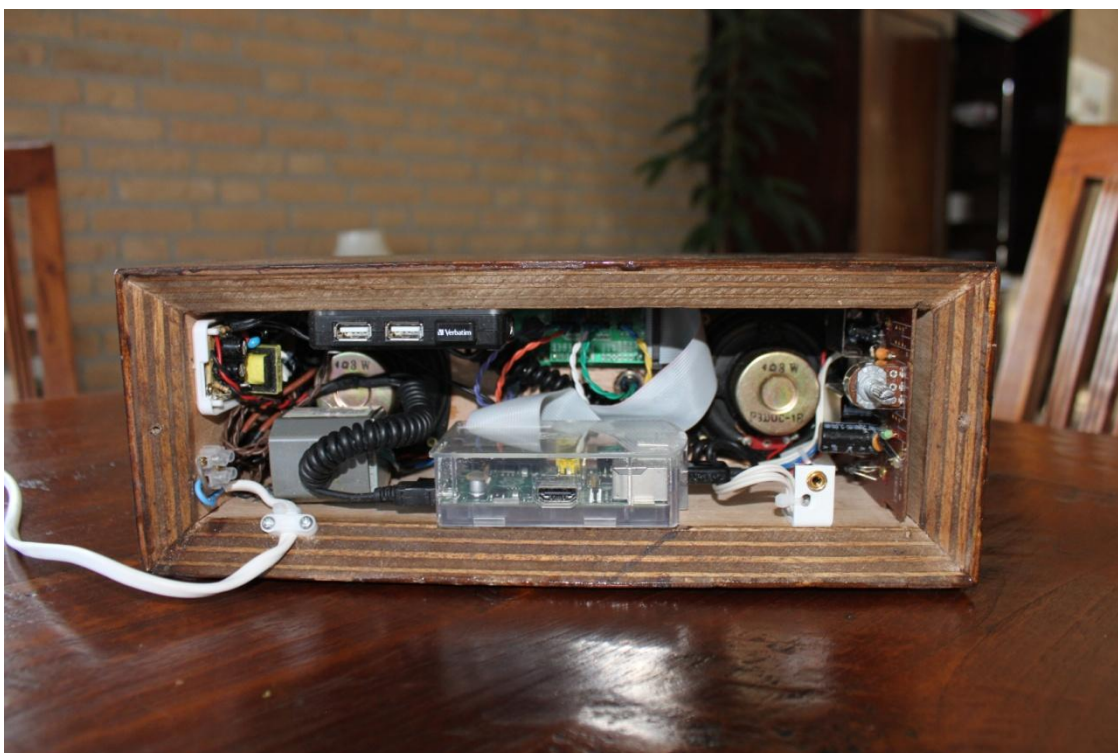


Figure 34 Radio rear inside view

Shown from top left to bottom right: 5V power supply (from a standard phone charger), four port USB with a memory stick for music files, LCD and Switch interface board (You can just see one of the switches connected with a twisted green wire), stereo amplifier (volume control now just a preset) and 4 inch speakers from a set of old PC speakers, mains input (mains switch behind this), mains transformer for the amplifier, Raspberry PI in a clear plastic case and finally the headphones socket.

Construction using an Adafruit LCD plate

Introduction

This section is for the radio using an Adafruit RGB-backlit LCD plate for Raspberry PI. The complete instructions for both ordering and building this product are available from the following web site.

Note: Don't confuse this product (which has an I2C interface chip) with the two line and four line RGB LCDs which Adafruit also sell.

<http://www.adafruit.com/products/1110> (See tutorials)

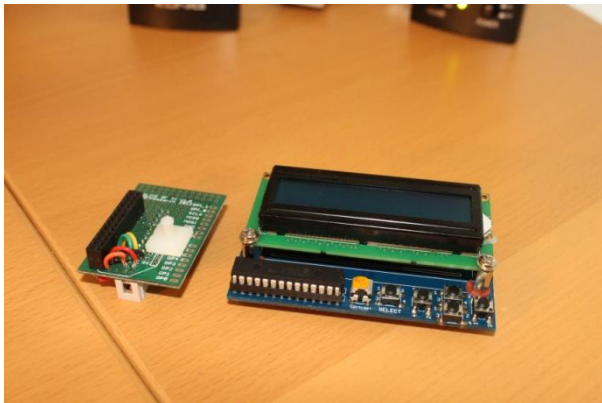


Figure 35 Adafruit LCD plate

The Adafruit LCD plate is designed to directly into the GPIO header on the Raspberry PI. These fit into a female 26 way header. If you want to connect the Adafruit LCD via a ribbon cable you will need to mount a 26 way male header instead of the female header and you will also need to construct a reversing board (Shown on the left of the picture on the left). Because ribbon cable swaps the two rows of pins over the reversing card is required to swap the two rows of pins back to their correct orientation.

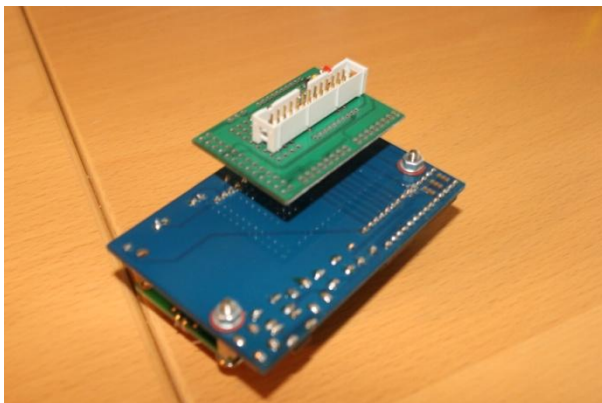


Figure 36 Adafruit LCD plate with ribbon cable adapter

Back view of the reversing board plugged into the Adafruit LCD plate.

The GPIO pins used are:

1. 3.3 Volts
2. 5.0 volts
3. SDA0
4. -
5. SCL0
6. Ground

Note 1: If you are going to plug the Adafruit LCD plate directly into the GPIO header on the Raspberry PI then you don't need the above reversing plate. Just follow the construction instructions on the tutorial on the Adafruit site.

Note 2: The "Select" button on the Adafruit plate is the "Menu" button for the radio.

Note 3: If you want to use an Adafruit display that allows setting different colours for the backlight then see section *Configuring the Adafruit LCD backlight colours* on page 55 for instructions on how to do this.

Using other switches

The Adafruit Plate comes with five 4 pin switches which are mounted on the interface board. You will almost certainly want to use other switches say mounted on a front panel. It doesn't matter

which type of switch you use as long as it is a push to make type. The only reason that a four connector switch is used is for mechanical strength.

If you look closely you will see push button symbol between pins 2 and 4 and 1 or 3 on the component side for four of the switches. Either 2 and 4 and 1 or 3 should be connected to the switches.

It is advisable to solder two posts (male pins) for each switch on the reverse side of the board (The non-component side). Don't solder wires directly into the board. It is better to use push-on jumper wires connected to the switches to connect to the posts on the card.

Note: Rotary encoders cannot be used with the Adafruit Plate as these require three connections.

Using the Adafruit LCD plate with the model B+ and 2B

The plate is designed for both Revision 1 and Revision 2 Raspberry Pi's. It uses the I2C (SDA/SCL) pins. Adafruit supply a special extra tall 26-pin header so the plate sits above the USB and Ethernet jacks. For Pi Model B+, the resistors sit right above the new set of USB ports. To keep them from shorting against the metal, a piece of electrical tape must be placed on the top of the USB ports.

Construction using an I2C LCD backpack

Skip this section if you are not using an I2C backpack. There are two versions of the backpack:

1. Adafruit I2C backpack using an MCP23017 port expander – address 0x20
2. Arduino I2C backpack using a PCF847 port expander – address 0x27

Since version 3.13 it is possible to connect an LCD using the Adafruit I2C backpack interface. This interface supports both I2C and SPI interfaces. I2C is the default. This interface only requires two signals namely the I2C Data and Clock. This saves six GPIO pins when compared with the directly wired LCD interface. See <https://www.adafruit.com/product/292>.

From version 4.5 onwards the more common PCF8475 chip based backpack popular with the Arduino hobby computer may also be used. See <http://www.play-zone.ch/en/i2c-backpack-pcf8574t-fur-1602-lcds-5v.html> for example.

The one to use is configurable in the `/etc/radiod.conf` file.

```
# The i2cbackpack is either ADAFRUIT or PCF8475
# i2c_backpack=PCF8475
i2c_backpack=ADAFRUIT
```

Adafruit I2C Backpack

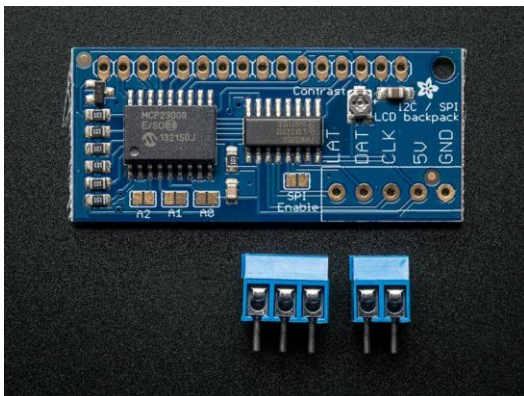


Figure 37 Adafruit I2C Backpack

The Adafruit I2C/SPI backpack interface is shipped as shown in the diagram opposite. There are no connectors shipped to connect to the LCD itself to this interface. These must be ordered separately.

Order a 16 in-line connector.

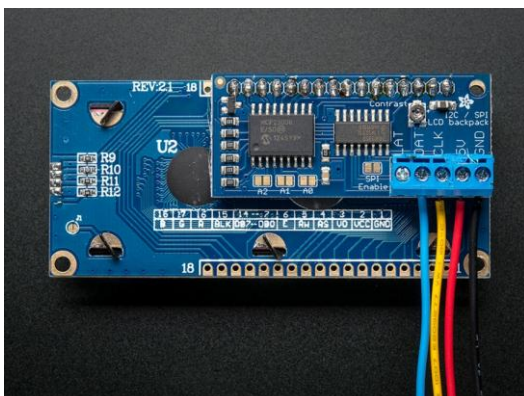


Figure 38 LCD connected to an Adafruit I2C backpack

The diagram shown on the left shows a 2x16 character LCD connected to the I2C backpack. The wiring right to left is:

1. Black - GND (0 volts) – GPIO pin 6
2. Red - +5 volts – GPIO pin 2
3. Yellow – I2C Clock – GPIO pin 5
4. Blue – I2C Data – GPIO pin 3

The I2C Data (DAT) connects to pin 3 on the Raspberry Pi GPIO header and the I2C Clock (CLK) to pin 5 on the GPIO header.

Arduino PCF8475 I2C backpacks

These types of backpack are popular with Arduino users. The device address is usually 0x27.

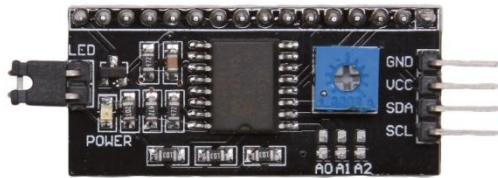


Figure 39 Arduino I2C backpack

The wiring From top to bottom is:

1. GND (0 volts) – GPIO pin 6
2. VCC +5 volts – GPIO pin 2
3. SDA I2C Data – GPIO pin 5
4. SCL I2C Clock – GPIO pin 3

The blue potentiometer on the right is the contrast adjustment.

To use this device amend the `i2c_backpack` parameter in `/etc/radiod.conf` (Comment out the ADAFRUIT line).

```
i2c_backpack=PCF8475
#i2c_backpack=ADAFRUIT
```

Creating the interface board for the I2C backpack

An interface board is recommended to connect the I2C backpack and rotary encoders etc. to the the GPIO interface. The Ciseco Humble PI is an ideal way to construct the interface board.

See <http://shop.ciseco.co.uk/k001-humble-pi/>

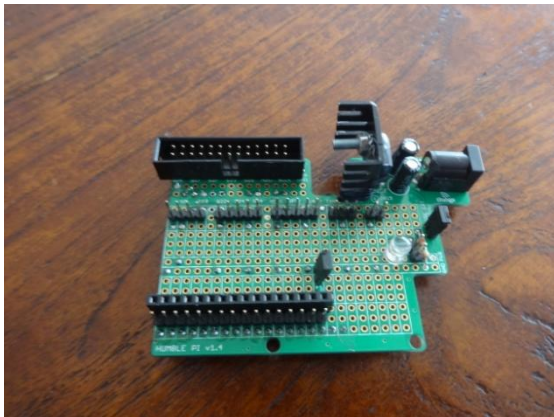


Figure 40 Ciseco Humble PI I2C interface board



Figure 41 The I2C backpack interface board

The above figure shows the I2C interface board using the Ciseco Humble PI. The header pins in the centre from left to right are, I2C interface connector (4 pins), Volume rotary encoder (5 pins), Channel rotary encoder (5 pins), IR sensor (3 pins) and front panel LED (2 pins). In this version there are two rows of 18 pins (male and female) to allow different I2C backpack to be connected. You will normally only need one or the other.

The above diagram shows the Adafruit I2C backpack connected to the interface board along with the rotary encoders. The 26 pin male header connects to the GPIO ribbon cable on the Raspberry PI. On the left is a 6V to 9V power input feeding a 5 volt regulator.

Construction using the PiFace CAD

Fortunately no soldering or construction is required with the PiFace CAD. It just plug it in and run the software. The main advantage of the PiFace CAD is that it has an IR sensor which means that it can be used with a remote control. It is however more sluggish in its operation when compared to other variants of the radio. It also has the disadvantage that the push buttons are on the bottom of the unit.



Figure 42 PiFace CAD and Raspberry PI



Figure 43 PiFace CAD in a case

Various ready-made cases are available from various suppliers. Warning: not all fit properly and might require some modification.

The PiFace CAD uses the SPI interface (from Motorola)

See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Serial_Peripheral_Interface_Bus for further information on SPI.

Installing an IR sensor and remote control

IR Sensor

If you are using the PiFace CAD then the IR sensor is already built in and is connected via the PiFace CAD to GPIO 23 (Pin 16) so skip this section. If you wish to use an IR remote control with other variants of the radio then purchase an IR sensor TSOP38238 or similar. The output in this case will be connected to GPIO 11 (Pin 23) or GPIO 21 (pin 40) for LCD or Adafruit Plate respectively.

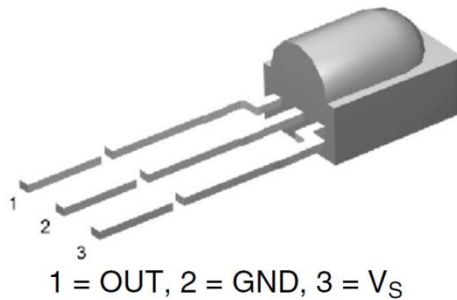


Figure 44 TSOP38238 IR sensor

The TSOP38xxx series works from 2.5 to 5.5 volts and is ideal for use the Raspberry PI.

IR sensor	Description	RPi
Pin 1	Signal Out	GPIO in *
Pin 2	Ground	Pin 6
Pin 3 **	Vs 3.3 Volts	Pin 1

* See Table 5 IR Sensor Pin outs

** **Caution** Do not connect accidentally to 5 volts

See <http://www.vishay.com/docs/82491/tsop382.pdf> for more information on these IR sensors.

Remote control



Almost any surplus IR remote control can be used with this project. Later on it is explained how to set up the remote control with the radio software. You will need to install the software for IR sensor.

See the section called *Installing the Infra Red sensor software* on page 49.

Remote Control Activity LED

If wanted an activity LED can be connected to GPIO 11 or 13 depending on the type of radio. This flashes every remote control activity is detected. It is a good idea to include this.

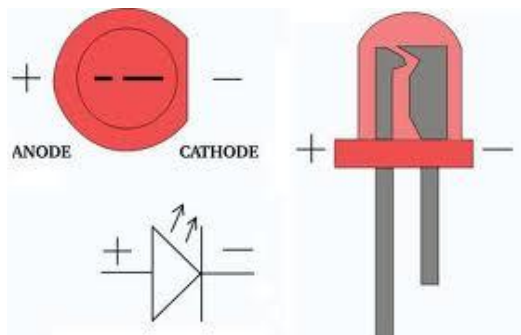


Figure 45 LED polarity

LEDs have polarity and must be wired correctly to work. The diagram shows the polarity of a typical LED. The longer lead is the positive (+) connection and connects to the Anode (The smaller terminal inside the LED)

Also the LED must be wired in series with a resistor to limit the current, typically 220 Ohms is OK. Failure to do this will cause the LED to burn brightly for a short while then burn out. Connect the cathode to GND (RPI Pin 6) and the Anode (+) to GPIO 11 (Pin 23) via a 220 Ohm resistor.

The following table shows the GPIO pin used for the LED connections.

Table 4 Remote Control Activity LED

Radio Type	Pin	GPIO	Type of Raspberry PI
Activity LED not fitted	none	n/a	Not applicable
Two or Four line LCD with Push Buttons	23	11	26 or 40 Pin version
Two or Four line LCD with Rotary encoders	23	11	26 or 40 Pin version
Two or Four line LCD with I2C backpack	23	11	26 or 40 Pin version
Pi Face CAD with push buttons	33	13	40 pin version only
Adafruit RGB plate with push buttons	33	13	40 pin version only

How to configure the LED is shown on in the section called *Configuring the remote control activity LED* on page 53.

Warning: Configuring the LED on GPIO 11 (Pin 23) when using a PiFace CAD will cause the PiFace CAD to crash on start up. GPIO 11 is part of the SPI interface used by the PiFace CAD.

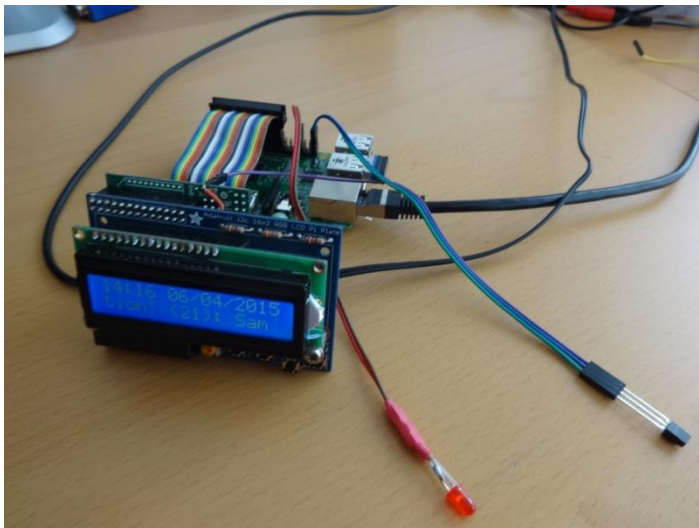


Figure 46 Adafruit plate with IR sensor and activity LED.

The illustration on the left shows an Adafruit RGB plate with IR sensor and activity LED.

The IR sensor picks up 3.3 volts from the reversing plate and connects the signal output to Pin 40 (GPIO 21) and GND (pin 39).

The LED connects to pin 33 (GPIO 13) and ground (pin 34).

System Software installation

SD card creation

Use at least an 8 Gigabyte Card. Create an SD card running the latest version of Raspbian Wheezy (Not Raspbian Jesse which is not yet supported but is coming). This can be downloaded from <http://www.raspberrypi.org/downloads>. See the *Image Installation Guides* on this page for instructions on how to install the Raspbian Wheezy operating system software.

Conventions used in this tutorial

Installation of the radio program requires you to enter lines at the command line prompt. This requires you to log into the Raspberry PI as user '**pi**'. The default password is **raspberry**. Don't carry out any of the following commands just yet. They are just examples

```
Raspberrypi login: pi
Password: raspberry
pi@raspberrypi:~$ Last login: Sun Apr  6 10:18:18 2014 from 192.168.2.100
pi@raspberrypi:~$
```

The prompt line is displayed ending with a \$ sign. The **pi@raspberrypi:~** string means user 'pi' on host machine called 'raspberrypi'. The ~ character means the user 'pi' home directory **/home/pi**. In this tutorial if you are required to do something as user **pi** then only the \$ sign will be shown followed by the command as shown in the example below:

```
$ mpc status
```

Some of the commands need to be carried out as user '**root**'. To become root user type in the '**sudo bash**' command:

```
$ sudo bash
root@raspberrypi:/home/pi#
```

Again the prompt shows the username, hostname and current working directory. However only the # followed by the required command will be shown in this tutorial. For example:

```
# apt-get install mpd mpc python-mpd
```

Online update and upgrade of the Operating System

Once you have installed the operating system login to the system. Run **raspi-config**.

```
$ sudo raspi-config
```

Select option **1 Expand Filesystem** and then **OK** followed by **Finish**. Reboot the system.

After reboot run the following commands as root user:

```
$ sudo apt-get update
```

Do not run **apt-get dist-upgrade** as this will upgrade to **Debian Jesse** which is not yet supported. If you don't carry out this step then installation of the Music player daemon or other software may fail.

Setting the time zone

The Raspian Wheezy operating system is usually set to UK time. The easiest way to set the time zone for your country if you are in a different timezone is to use the **raspi-config** program.

```
$ sudo raspi-config
```

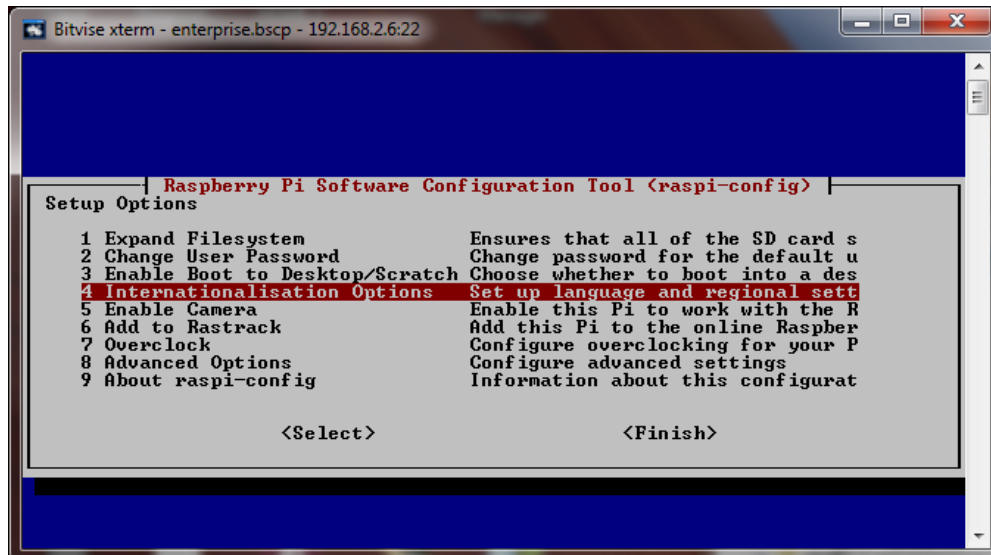


Figure 47 raspi-config start screen

Select option 4 “Internationalisation Options”, Use the tab key to move to <Select> and press enter. The above screen is using the Bitvise SSH client program (See Putty on the web).

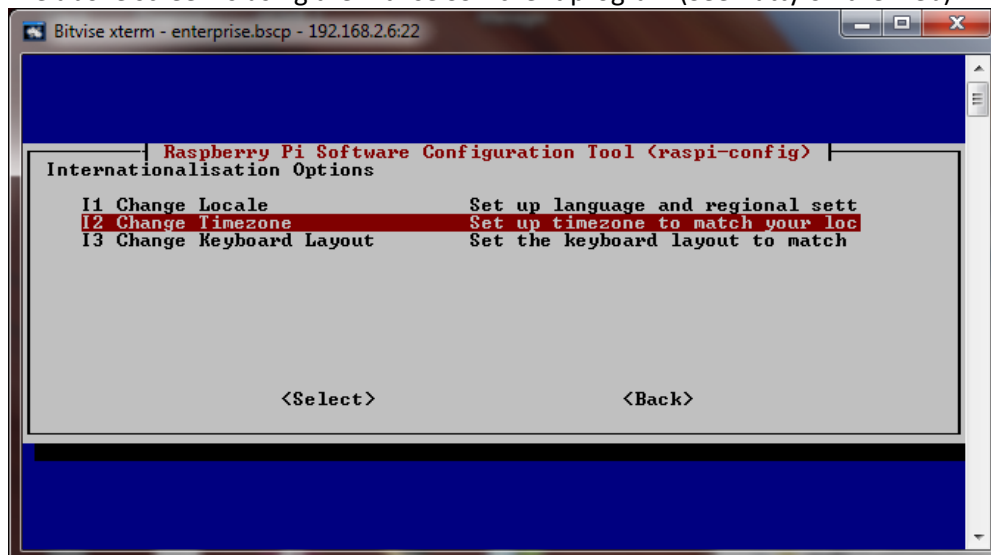


Figure 48 Selecting the time zone

Select the “Change Timezone” option. Again use the tab key to move to <Select> and press enter.

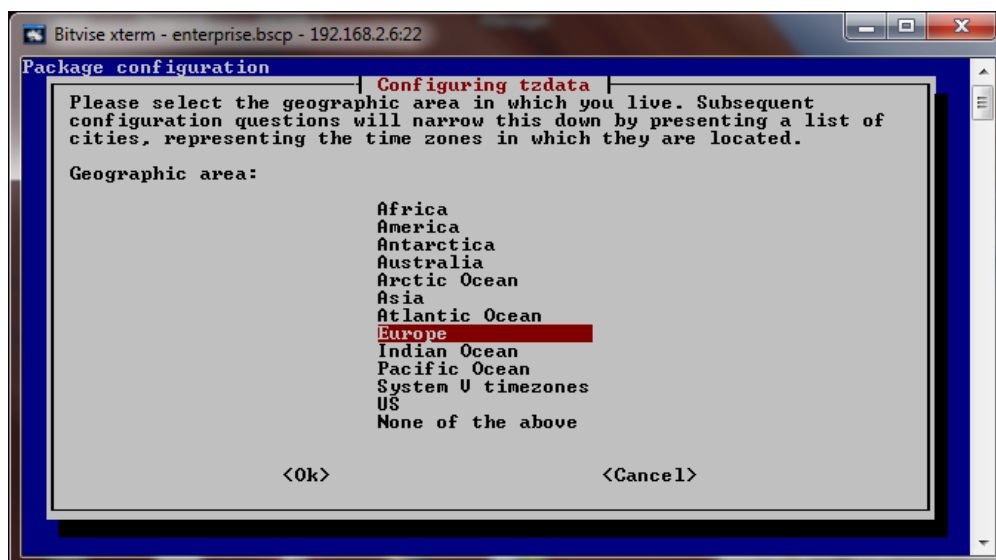


Figure 49 Saving the timezone

Select the region your country is in, Europe for example. Use the tab key to move to <OK> and press enter. The program will then display a list of timezones for the selected region. Select the correct one and save it by tabbing to <ok> and pressing the enter key. The timezone will be updated. Exit the program once finished.

Changing the system hostname and password

It is a good idea to change the system password for security reasons especially if your raspberry PI is connected to a network with a wireless (WIFI) network. Changing the hostname is also a good idea as it makes identifying your radio on the network much easier. If you wish to do this then change the default hostname from 'raspberrypi' to something like 'piradio' or 'myradio'.

Both the password and hostname can be changed using the raspi-config program.

```
$ sudo raspi-config
```

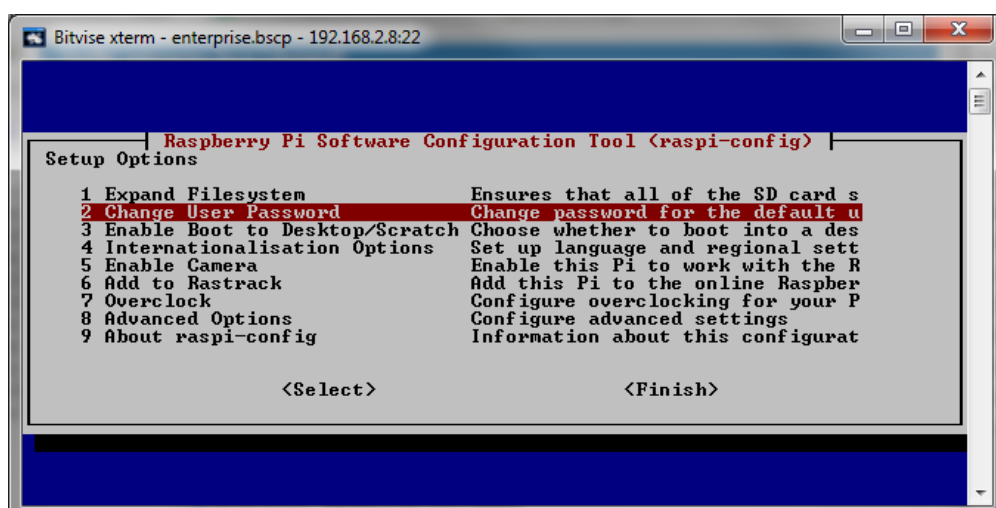


Figure 50 Changing the raspberry PI password

Option 2 is used to change the password. Make sure you record your new password somewhere safe (It is easy to forget it).

The hostname is changed in option 8:

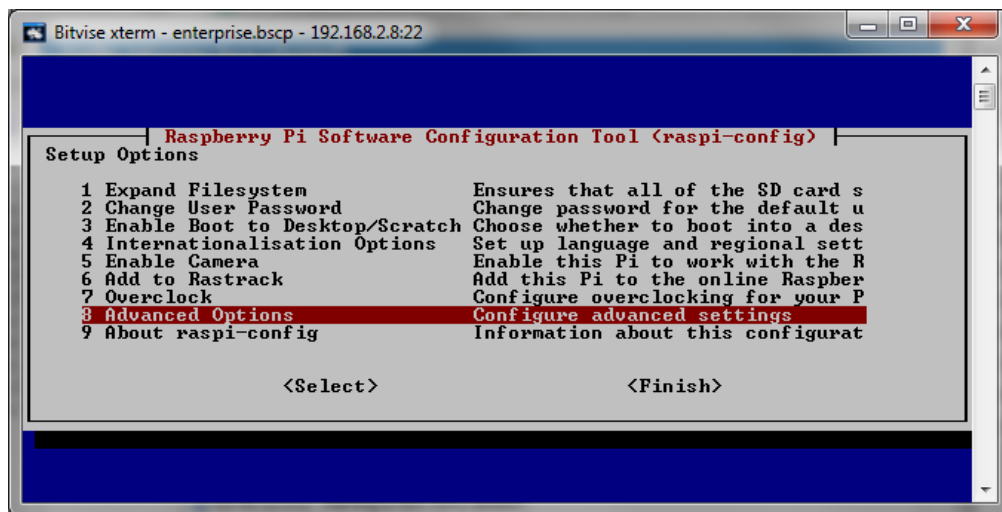


Figure 51 raspi-config advanced options

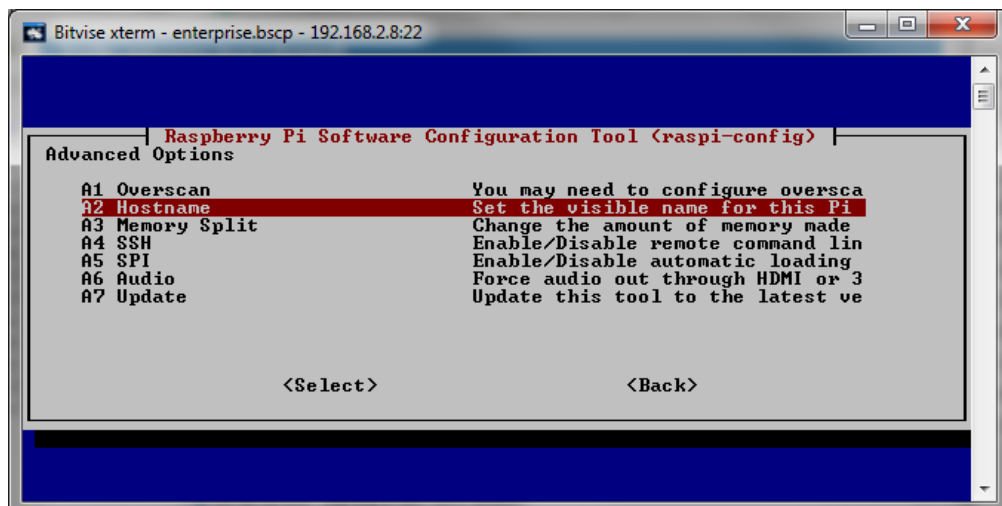


Figure 52 Changing the hostname

You will be asked if you wish to reboot the system. After you reboot the system you will see the new hostname at the login prompt.

```
pi@piradio:~$
```

In the above example the new hostname is 'piradio'.

Installing or upgrading the radio Software

If you are upgrading from an earlier version of the software please read the section called *Upgrading from earlier versions* on page 55 first. Note that the Model 2 PI needs Debian Wheezy from 16th February 2015 or later.

Music Player Daemon Installation

All commands should be carried out from the **/home/pi** directory.

If not already carried out do an update of the system. This will take some time.

```
$ sudo apt-get update
```

Do not run **apt-get dist-upgrade** as this will upgrade to **Debian Jessie** which is not yet supported.

Note: This is a very important step and if not carried out the installation of MPD may fail.

Reboot the Raspberry PI to apply all of the updates.

```
$ sudo reboot
```

Install the [Music Player Daemon](#) (mpd) and its client (mpc) along with the Python MPD library.

```
$ sudo apt-get install mpd mpc python-mpd
```

Ignore the following errors:

```
Starting Music Player Daemon: mpdlisten: bind to '[:,1]:6600' failed: Failed
to create socket: Address family not supported by protocol (continuing
anyway, because binding to '127.0.0.1:6600' succeeded)
Failed to load database: Failed to open database file
"/var/lib/mpd/tag_cache": No such file or directory
```

Amend the `bind_to_address` parameter **/etc/mpd.conf** to “any”. Comment out the line with “localhost” and create a new one as shown below.

```
# For network
# bind_to_address      "localhost"
bind_to_address        "any"
```

Note: At this stage there are no playlists configured so the music daemon won’t play anything. The playlists are created when the radiod Debian Package is installed. See *Install the Radio Daemon* in the next section.

Install the Radio Daemon

As from version 3.6 the Raspberry PI Internet Radio software is distributed as a Debian package. This can be downloaded from http://www.bobrathbone.com/pi_radio_source.htm

Either download it to your PC or Macintosh and copy it to the **/home/pi** directory or get it directly using the **wget** facility.

To use the **wget** facility first copy the download link from the above page (Right click on the link). Log into the Raspberry PI. Now use **wget** to the software package:

```
$ wget http://www.bobrathbone.com/raspberrypi/packages/radiod_4.7_armhf.deb
```

Note that the version number shown above will change with later releases so check the download link. If installing for the first time then run **dpkg** to install the package.

```
$ sudo dpkg -i radiod_4.7_armhf.deb
```

Important: If upgrading or reinstalling the **radiod** package you must use the **--force-confmiss** flag.

```
$ sudo dpkg --install --force-confmiss radiod_4.7_armhf.deb
```

The following will be displayed:

```
Selecting previously unselected package radiod.
(Reading database ... 75014 files and directories currently installed.)
Unpacking radiod (from radiod_4.7_armhf.deb) ...
Raspberry PI internet radio installation
Setting up radiod () ...
Executing post install script /var/lib/dpkg/info/radiod.postinst
update-rc.d: using dependency based boot sequencing
```

Ignore all **insserv** warnings.

The installation program will now ask which daemon should be installed:

```
Radio daemon selection

Select the radio daemon to be installed 1-8:

1) Two line LCD with push buttons (radiod.py)
2) Four line LCD with push buttons (radio4.py)
3) Two line LCD with rotary encoders (rradiod.py)
4) Four line LCD with rotary encoders (rradio4.py)
5) Two line Adafruit LCD with push buttons (ada_radio.py)
6) Two line LCD with I2C backpack and rotary encoders (rradiobp.py)
7) Four line LCD with I2C backpack and rotary encoders (rradiobp4.py)
8) PiFace Control and Display - CAD (radio_piface.py)
x) Exit
Select version:
```

Select the correct daemon for the radio that you are building. See *Table 1 Radio variants* on page 20.

For example:

```
Select version: 5
Daemon ada_radio.py selected
```

```
update-rc.d: using dependency based boot sequencing
insserv: warning: current start runlevel(s) (empty) of script `mpd'
overrides LSB defaults (2 3 4 5).
insserv: warning: current stop runlevel(s) (0 1 2 3 4 5 6) of script `mpd'
overrides LSB defaults (0 1 6).
insserv: warning: script 'mathkernel' missing LSB tags and overrides
```

Ignore the above **insserv** errors. The program now creates the playlists

```
Copying podcasts.dist to /var/lib/radiod/podcasts
Creating playlists:
This will take a few minutes
Done: See /home/pi/radio/playlists.log for information about playlists
created
```

The program amends the necessary configuration files. It now creates the playlists. This takes a few minutes. An initial set of playlists are created in the **/var/lib/mpd/playlists** directory. From here on the program output will vary upon the selection you make.

Go to the option you selected on the next pages.

Options 1, 2, 3 or 4

If you selected options 1, 2, 3 or 4 then no other special software is required to be installed.

```
Disabling serial interface in /etc/inittab
Disabling serial interface in /boot/cmdline.txt
Modifying /etc/mpd.conf
PI Radio software successfully installed
See /usr/share/doc/radiod/README for release information

PI Radio software successfully installed
See /usr/share/doc/radiod/README for release information

It is necessary to reboot the system to start the radio
```

Options 5, 6 or 7

If you selected option 5, 6 or 7 (Adafruit LCD plate or backpack) then the following is displayed:

```
The installation will now run the raspi-config cofiguration program!
When it runs select Advanced options
and enable automatic loading of the I2C kernel module
Enter y to continue or x to exit: y
```

Enter 'y'. The raspi-config program now runs. Select 8 "Advanced options" then option A7.

```
A7 I2C  Enable/Disable automatic loading of I2C kernel module
```

Exit the program (Do not select the option to reboot just yet)

The raspi-config program will then enable the I2C module. Finally the following is displayed.

```
It is necessary to install the I2C libraries
Carry out the following command:
    sudo apt-get install python-smbus
and reboot the system
```

If the above is displayed then install the I2C libraries as shown in the section called *Testing the Music Player Daemon MPD* on page 46.

Option 8 PiFace CAD

If option 8 was selected the following is displayed:

```
Configured to use PiFace CAD
The installation will now run the raspi-config configuration program!
When it runs select Advanced options
and enable automatic loading of the SPI kernel module
Enter y to continue or x to exit: y
```

Enter 'y'. The **raspi-config** program now runs. Select "Advanced options" then option A6 SPI Enable.

```
A6 SPI    Enable/Disable automatic loading of SPI kernel module (needed for
e.g. PiFace)
```

Answer 'yes' to all the questions about enabling and loading the SPI module.

The SPI module will be permanently enabled in the kernel.

Reboot the Raspberry PI.

```
$ sudo reboot
```

Now run the instructions in *Installing the PiFace software* on page 49.

Update the radiod.conf file

This version has quite a few additions to the **/etc/radiod.conf** file. If you are upgrading the software make a note of any changes you made to the old **/etc/radiod.conf** file and copy the new configuration file.

```
$ cd /home/pi/radio
$ sudo cp radiod.conf /etc/radiod.conf
```

Reboot to enable the software

The software is installed in the **/home/pi/radio** directory. Now reboot the Raspberry PI

```
$ sudo reboot
```

Once rebooted the software should run and music should be heard. If not go to the section called *Testing the Music Player Daemon MPD* on page 46.

The radio daemon can be started and stopped with the **service** command:

```
$ sudo service radiod start
$ sudo service radiod stop
```

This will also stop and start the MPD daemon.

To prevent automatic start-up of the radio at boot time run the following command:

```
$ sudo update-rc.d radiod disable
```

To re-enable it:

```
$ sudo update-rc.d radiod enable
```

Testing the Music Player Daemon MPD

This section provides useful information on the operation of the Music Player Daemon (MPD) and its client (MPC) or diagnostics if no music is heard when the Radio is started.

If no music is being heard check the status of MPD:

```
$ sudo service mpd status  
mpd is running.
```

If the following is seen:

```
$ sudo service mpd status  
mpd is not running ... failed!
```

Start the MPD daemon.

```
$ sudo service mpd start  
Starting Music Player Daemon: mpd.
```

If no music is heard check that there are playlists configured using the music player client **mpc playlist** command (sudo isn't necessary):

```
$ mpc playlist  
Nashville FM  
RAI Radio Uno  
RAI Radio Duo  
Prima Radio Napoli  
Radio 1 Nederland  
:
```

If no playlists are shown run the **create_playlists.py** program as shown in the section called *Creating playlists* on 65.

Installing the I2C libraries

If you are using the Adafruit plate or Adafruit LCD backpack it is necessary to install the I2C libraries. If using the LCD directly wired to the GPIO pins then skip this section.

For a more basic introduction to setting up I2C on your Pi then you may wish to take a look at this Adafruit tutorial: <http://learn.adafruit.com/adafruits-raspberry-pi-lesson-4-gpio-setup/configuring-i2c>.

The following diagram shows how the Adafruit LCD plate and I2C interface fit together with the radio daemon component software.

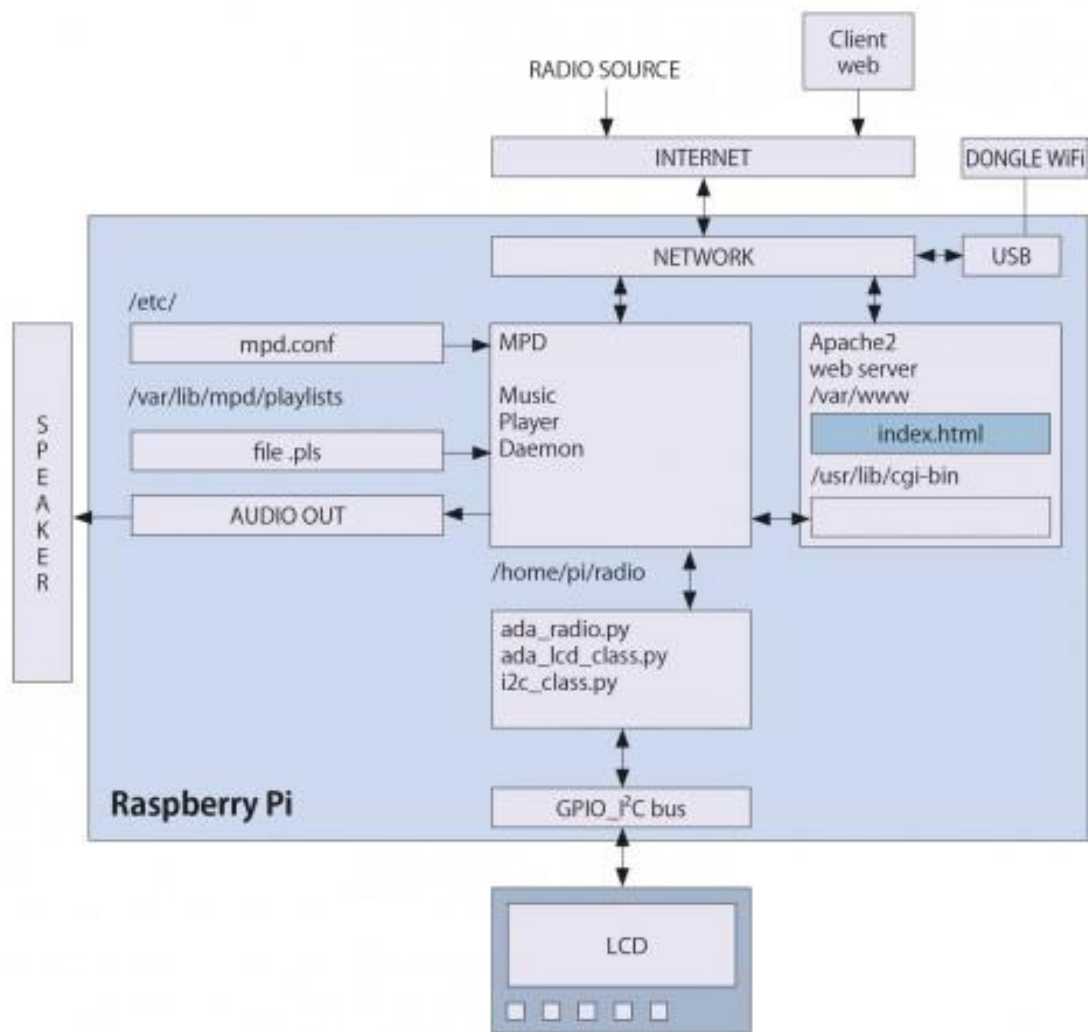


Figure 53 Adafruit LCD and I2C block diagram (From Open Electronics Magazine)

The radio installation should have already modified the **/etc/modules** file to include the I2C modules. Check this file and if the modules shown below are missing add them as **sudo** or user root and reboot to enable the hardware I2C driver.

```
i2c-bcm2708
i2c-dev
```

Reboot the system (Only necessary if the above modules were missing in the **/etc/modules** file):

```
$ sudo reboot
```

After rebooting log back in and enter the following commands to add SMBus support (which includes I2C) to Python:

```
$ sudo apt-get install python-smbus
```

This also installs the **i2c-tools** package which is used to scan for any I2C or SMBus devices connected to the Raspberry. If you know something is connected, but you don't know it's 7-bit I2C address, this library has a great little tool to help you find it:

If you are using a revision 2 Raspberry Pi (New boards) carry out the following:

```
$ sudo i2cdetect -y 1
```

If you are using a revision 1 Raspberry Pi (Old boards) carry out the following:

```
$ sudo i2cdetect -y 0
```

This will search /dev/i2c-0 or /dev/i2c-1 for all address, and if the Adafruit LCD Plate is correctly connected, it should show up at **0x20**. See Figure 54 *The I2C bus display using the i2cdetect program*.

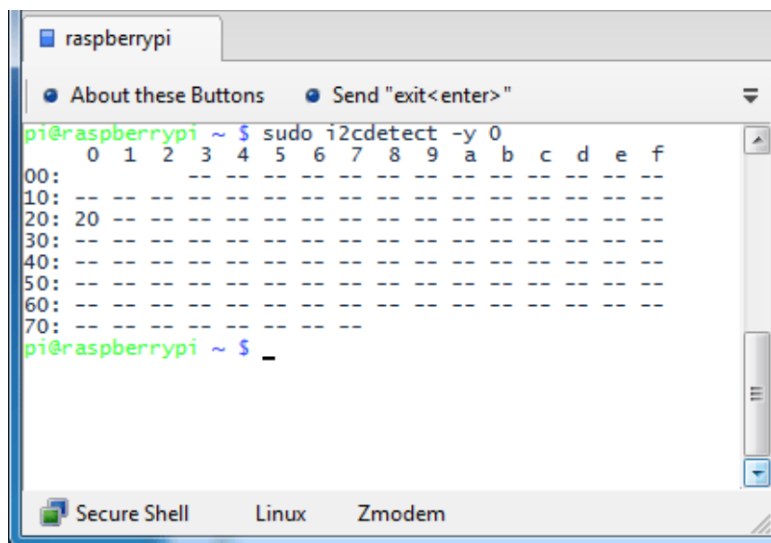


Figure 54 The I2C bus display using the i2cdetect program

Once both of these packages have been installed, you have everything you need to get started accessing I2C and SMBus devices in Python.

Installing the PiFace software

This section is only for the PiFace CAD or if adding an Infra Red (IR) sensor. If not using the PiFace CAD or an IR sensor then skip this section. If upgrading to version 4.7 you will need to reconfigure your Remote Control as described later.

If you haven't already done so update the operating system first.

```
$ sudo apt-get update
```

Do not run **apt-get dist-upgrade** as this will upgrade to **Debian Jesse** which is not yet supported. Install **pifacecad** (for Python 3 and 2) with the following command:

```
$ sudo apt-get install python{,3}-pifacecad
```

Now reboot the Raspberry PI.

```
$ sudo reboot
```

The Radio should start automatically.

The instruction following is for the PiFace CAD only. Once rebooted if the LCD doesn't display anything then test the display by running the **sysinfo.py** program. Stop the radio first:

```
$ python3 /usr/share/doc/python3-pifacecad/examples/sysinfo.py
```

This should display some system information on the LCD.

Installing the Infra Red sensor software

This section is applicable to both the PiFace CAD IR sensor or a separate IR and sensor and activity LED.

You will need to configure the IR receiver yourself. More examples can be found in **/usr/share/doc/python3-pifacecad/examples/** (which may need unzipping using gunzip). The full instructions for setting up the IR software are available from:

<http://piface.github.io/pifacecad/lirc.html#setting-up-the-infrared-receiver>.

Or

http://www.piface.org.uk/guides/setting_up_pifacecad/setting_up_PiFace_CAD_to_use_a_remote/

Run the **setup_pifacecad_lirc.sh** program

```
$ sudo bash
# cd /home/pi/radio
```

Now get the latest piface setup program and make it executable.

```
# rm -f setup_pifacecad_lirc.sh
# wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/piface/pifacecad/master/bin/setup_pifacecad_lirc.sh
# chmod +x setup_pifacecad_lirc.sh
```

Now run it:

```
# ./setup_pifacecad_lirc.sh
This script will overwrite the following files:
/etc/modules
/boot/config.txt
Do you wish to continue?
1) Yes
```

2) No

Select option 1

```
Installing LIRC.  
.  
.  
Now you must create an /etc/lirc/lircd.conf for your remote control.  
Either download one from here:  
  
    http://lirc.sourceforge.net/remotes/  
  
Or generate one yourself with the following command:  
  
    sudo irrecord -f -d /dev/lirc0 /etc/lirc/lircd.conf
```

If you are using the PiFace CAD then go to the copy **lircrc.dist** file below:

Table 5 IR Sensor Pin outs

Radio Type	Pin	GPIO	Type of Raspberry PI
PI Face Cad (IR sensor already wired)	16	23	Any
Two or Four line LCD with Push Buttons	21	9	Any
Two or Four line LCD with Rotary encoders	21	9	Any
Two or Four line LCD with I2C backpack	21	9	Any
Adafruit RGB plate with push buttons	40	21	40 pin version only

If using the separate IR sensor and activity LED configure lirc-rpi in the **/boot/config.txt** file with the lirc-rpi device details. Edit the **/boot/config.txt** file and change the **gpio_pin_pin** parameter from:

```
dtoverlay=lirc-rpi,gpio_in_pin=23,gpio_in_pull=high
```

To the GPIO number shown in Table 5 above.

For all radio versions except the Adafruit plate or PiFace CAD:

```
dtoverlay=lirc-rpi,gpio_in_pin=9,gpio_in_pull=high
```

or to this for the AdaFruit plate.

```
dtoverlay=lirc-rpi,gpio_in_pin=21,gpio_in_pull=high
```

Save the **/boot/config.txt**.

Now copy the **lircrc.dist** file to **/etc/lirc/lircrc**

```
$ cd /home/pi/radio  
$ sudo cp lircrc.dist /etc/lirc/lircrc
```

Reboot the Raspberry Pi

```
$ sudo reboot
```


Now test your remote control with the mode2 command. You should see lots of codes when you press buttons on the remote control.

```
$ sudo mode2 -d /dev/lirc0
space 5358604
pulse 4591
space 4459
pulse 651
.
.
```

Check that the **lirc0** device exists. If it doesn't exist you cannot continue. Check that the **/boot/config.txt** file has been correctly configured as shown above.

```
$ ls -la /dev/lirc0
crw-rw---T 1 root video 246, 0 Jan  1  1970 /dev/lirc0
```

It is now necessary generate a configuration for the remote control then first move the distributed **/etc/lirc/lircd.conf** file out of the way.

```
$ sudo mv /etc/lirc/lircd.conf /etc/lirc/lircd.conf.org
```

Now run the configuration program.

```
$ sudo irrecord -f -d /dev/lirc0 /etc/lirc/lircd.conf
```

If you see the following

```
irrecord: could not open /dev/lirc0
irrecord: default_init(): Device or resource busy
irrecord: could not init hardware (lircd running ? --> close it, check
permissions)
```

Run the following command:

```
$ sudo service lirc stop
```

If the problem persists, make sure the **/boot/config.txt** file has been correctly set up as previously shown and that you rebooted.

Follow the instructions in the **irrecord** program exactly!

The **irrecord** program will ask you for the names of the buttons that you want to configure. You may not make your own names up. You must use the names shown in the first column of the following table and which are defined in **/etc/lirc/lircrc**.

It is a good idea to just start with the basic keys for volume up and channel change and when you have the remote control working re-configure with all of the keys shown in *Table 6 Remote Control Key names and functions*.

Table 6 Remote Control Key names and functions

Key Names	Normal	Search	Source	Options
KEY_VOLUMEUP	Volume up	Volume up	Volume up	Volume up
KEY_VOLUMEDOWN	Volume down	Volume down	Volume down	Volume down
KEY_CHANNELUP	Channel up	Channel up	Channel up	Channel up
KEY_CHANNELDOWN	Channel down	Channel down	Channel down	Channel down
KEY_MUTE	Mute sound	Mute sound	Mute sound	Mute sound
KEY_MENU	Step menu	Play selected	Load tracks/stations	Next menu
KEY_UP	Not used	Previous artist	Toggle source	Previous option
KEY_DOWN	Not used	Next artist	Toggle source	Next option
KEY_LEFT	Not used	Track up	Not used	Toggle option
KEY_RIGHT	Not used	Track down	Not used	Toggle option
KEY_OK	Step menu	Play selected	Load tracks/stations	Next menu

Note: KEY_OK and KEY_MENU do the same thing.

The actual list of available names that may be used can be displayed with the following command:

```
$ sudo irrecord --list-namespace
```

There are more than 440 key names but only use the ones defined in the list above.

Start the radio software if not already running.

```
$ sudo service radiod start
```

Configure the **pifacercd** daemon to start at boot time and start it

```
$ sudo update-rc.d -f pifacercd defaults
$ sudo service pifacercd start
```

Now test the remote control with your newly configured remote control.

Disabling the repeat on the volume control

If you wish to disable the repeat on the volume control the edit the **/etc/lirc/lircrc** file, set **repeat = 0**, for KEY_VOLUMEUP and KEY_VOLUMEDOWN definitions.

```
begin
  prog = piradio
  button = KEY_VOLUMEUP
  config = KEY_VOLUMEUP
  repeat = 0
end

begin
  prog = piradio
  button = KEY_VOLUMEDOWN
  config = KEY_VOLUMEDOWN
  repeat = 0
end
```

Configuring the remote control activity LED

It is useful to have an activity LED which flashes every time the remote control is pressed. How to wire the activity LED is shown on page 36. Which pins you connect to will depend on the type of radio you are building. The following table shows the required LED connections. Boards such as the **PiFace CAD** and the **AdaFruit RGB plate** will need a 40 pin Raspberry PI as all the first 26 pins are occupied but the plug in card.

Configure the LED in **/etc/radiod.conf** for to pin 11 GPIO 23 for all versions except the PiFace CAD or AdaFruit plate. For PiFace CAD or Adafruit RGB plate configure either **remote_led=0** (No LED) or GPIO 13 (pin 40). See the section called on *Remote Control Activity LED* on page 36.

```
# Output LED for remote control, default GPIO 11 (pin 23) or
# GPIO 13 (pin 33) for AdaFruit plate or PiFace CAD (40 pin RPi needed)
# remote_led=0 is no output LED
remote_led=11
```

Configuring USB speakers instead of the analogue output

It is possible to configure the radio program to use USB loudspeakers instead of the analogue output of the Raspberry PI. USB speakers such as the Logitech SB150 or Trust SP-2750p USB speakers can be used and can be powered directly from the Raspberry PI.

To enable sound over the USB speaker set edit the **/etc/modprobe.d/alsa-base.conf** configuration file. Replace the following line:

```
options snd-usb-audio index=-2
```

With the following two lines:

```
options snd-usb-audio index=0 nrpacks=1
options snd-bcm2835 index=-2
```

Save the file and reboot the Raspberry PI. The radio should now use the USB speakers (The analogue output is disabled).

Note: Make sure that the radio is first working with the analogue output before re-configuring the above file.

Some USB devices may not run using the default the **/etc/mpd.conf** file. If problems are experienced with your USB device (Tenx Technology for example) then add the **mixer_type "software"** parameter to the **/etc/mpd.conf** file.

```
audio_output {
    type            "alsa"
    name            "My ALSA Device"
    device          "hw:0,0"          # optional
    format          "44100:16:2"      # optional
    mixer_device     "default"         # optional
    mixer_control    "PCM"             # optional
    mixer_index      "0"               # optional
    mixer_type       "software"        # Add this line for some USB devices
```

```
}
```

Configuring a CMedia USB dongle

If you are using the CMedia or compatible USB Sound dongle on the Raspberry PI then modify the “alsa” section in the **/etc/mpd.conf** file as follows:

```
audio_output {
    type          "alsa"
    name          "My ALSA Device"
    device        "hw:0,0"      # optional
    format        "44100:16:2"  # optional
    mixer_control  "Speaker"     # USB Sound dongle
    mixer_index    "0"           # optional
}
```

"Speaker" is how alsa-mixer refers to the **Cmedia** device.

If problems are experienced then examine the output of **mpd** from **/var/log/mpd/mpd.log** using **tail**. This example of the log below shows a typical error messages which may be seen:

```
Oct 14 19:46 : avahi: Service 'Music Player' successfully established.
Oct 14 19:46 : mixer: Failed to read mixer for 'My ALSA Device': no such
mixer control: PCM
```

The above configuration came from the following article and was tested by one of this projects contributor's:

<http://thisoldgeek.blogspot.nl/2012/12/getting-cmedia-usb-sound-to-work-with.html>

Changing the date format

From version 3.14 onwards it is possible to change the format of how the date is displayed on the LCD. In version 3.14 it is configured in the **/var/lib/radiod/dateformat** file.

From version 4.0 onwards it is configured in the **/etc/radiod.conf** file

```
dateformat=%H:%M %d/%m/%Y
```

The default configuration is: **%H:%M %d/%m/%Y**

Where: %H = Hours, %M=Minutes, %d= Day of the month, %m=month, %Y=Year

It is possible to change the format (for example for the United States) by changing the format. Some valid formats are:

%H:%M %m/%d/%Y	US format
%H:%M %d-%m-%Y	Minus sign as date separator
%d/%m/%Y %H:%M	Reverse date and time

Configuring the Adafruit LCD backlight colours

Some Adafruit displays such as the **rgb-negative Adafruit LCD** allow changing the colour of the backlight. From version 4.4 onwards this is configurable in the **/etc/radiod.conf** file. The colours that can be used are RED, GREEN, BLUE, YELLOW, TEAL, VIOLET and WHITE or OFF (No light)

The colour settings in the /etc/radiod.conf file

```
# Background colours (If supported) See Adafruit RGB plate
# options OFF, RED, GREEN, BLUE, YELLOW, TEAL, VIOLET, WHITE
bg_color=WHITE
mute_color=WHITE
shutdown_color=TEAL
error_color=RED
search_color=GREEN
info_color=BLUE
settings_color=YELLOW
```

Note: Always use the American spelling ‘color’ in all commands and not the British spelling ‘colour’.

Configuring the playlist number

The radio can be configured to display the station number in brackets. To do this edit **/etc/radiod.conf** and change the **display_playlist_number=no** to yes.

For example a station is displayed as:

```
10:49 19/06/2015
Ghost-Sky: Estelle
```

Change **display_playlist_number=no** to **display_playlist_number=yes**

```
display_playlist_number=yes
```

```
10:49 19/06/2015
Ghost-Sky: (23) E
```

The playlist number is now displayed in brackets when the radio is restarted.

Configuring startup mode for Radio or Media player

As from version 4.4 the radio can be configured to start in either the default Radio mode or Media player mode. To do this edit **/etc/radiod.conf** and change the **startup=RADIO** parameter to **MEDIA**.

```
# Startup option either RADIO or MEDIA (USB stick)
startup=RADIO
```

Upgrading from earlier versions

Warning: First of all please do not be tempted to run either the **rpi-update** or **apt-get upgrade** commands. Doing so may render your system un-bootable. Do not currently run **app-get update** as this will upgrade to Jesse which is not supported. Running upgrades or updates will not make the radio run any better. In the case of version 4.0 onwards and using Pi-Face CAD you should create a new SD card with the latest version of Debian Raspian Wheezy.

Version 4.0 of the software onwards uses the **/etc/radiod.conf** file to configure things like *loglevel* and *date format*. Files such as **loglevel**, **mpdport** and **dateformat** in **/var/lib/radiod** are no longer used.

As a general rule you should back up your existing software to somewhere safe. If you are upgrading from version 3.6 onwards you need only install the new package. The package installation routine can detect if a previous version of the software is installed and does a smart upgrade.

If upgrading from version 3.2 or earlier it is necessary to install **python-mpd** library. To upgrade from earlier versions as root or sudo carry out the following command:

```
$ sudo apt-get install python-mpd
```

To upgrade the programs run the installation procedure shown in the section called Install the Radio Daemon on page 42.

The ownership and permissions for **/media** and **/share** have changed. New installations automatically set these values. If upgrading from a version before version 3.4 carry out the following instructions:

Reboot the raspberry PI. Do not load the music library at this stage. Change the ownership and permissions with the following commands:

```
$ sudo chown pi:pi /media /share
```

The music library can now be loaded. There is no need to restart the radio.

If you haven't used the *create_playlists.py* program before then don't run the program straight away without copying all of your existing playlist files to the **/home/pi/radio/playlists** directory. Failure to do may result in the loss all of all your existing playlists. This has been changed in version 3.5 and above. The *create_playlists* program from version 3.5 onwards now asks if you want to delete the old playlists. See the section *Creating playlists* on page 65.

Operation

This section assumes that the LCD screen is working correctly, the MPD daemon is installed and tested and that there is an Internet connection available. If you are using a 4x20 LCD then substitute *radiod.py* for *radio4.py* in all of the following commands. If using the Adafruit LCD plate then substitute *ada_radio.py* for all of the following commands. If using rotary switches use *rradiod.py* and *rradiod.py* instead.

Starting the program

The program must either be run as root user or using sudo.

The basic operation of the program is:

```
$ sudo service radiod start|stop|restart|status|version
```

Where start: Start the radio program.
stop: Stop the radio program.
restart: Restart the radio program.
nodaemon: Do not daemonize (For test purposes only)
status: Show the status of the radio daemon.
version: Show the version number of the program

The advantage of using the above service commands is that they are the same for all versions of the radio as this is configured in the **radiod** service start/stop script. To start the radio:

```
$ sudo service radiod start
```

Alternatively the program may be started using the name of the particular program version you are using. Change to the **/home/pi/radio** directory and run the following command:

```
$ cd /home/pi/radio/  
$ sudo ./radiod.py start
```

To stop the radio

```
$ sudo ./radiod.py stop
```

For the 4 x 20 character LED run:

```
$ sudo ./radio4.py start
```

To display the status run:

```
$ sudo ./radiod.py status  
radiod running pid 2098
```

The above pid (Process ID) number will be different each time the program is run.

To see what version of the software you are running:

```
$ sudo ./radiod.py version  
Version
```

Buttons

There are five buttons, four function buttons and one menu button. The Menu button changes the display mode and the functions of the left and right hand buttons as shown in the following table. If using rotary encoders please see Table 8 on page 59.

Table 7 Push Button Operation

LCD Display Mode	Left hand buttons		Right hand buttons	
	Left button	Right button	Left button	Right button
Mode = TIME Line 1: Time Line 2: Station or Track	Volume Up	Volume Down	Station/Track up	Station/Track down
Mode = SEARCH If source = RADIO Line 1: Search: Line2: Radio Station	Volume Up	Volume Down	Scroll up radio station	Scroll down radio station
Mode = SEARCH If source = MUSIC LIBRARY Line 1: Search Line2: MusicTrack/Artist	Scroll up through artists	Scroll down through artists	Scroll up through track	Scroll down through track
Mode = SOURCE Line 1: Input Source: Line2: Internet Radio or Music Library	Volume Up Mute	Volume Down Mute	Toggle mode between Radio and Music Library	Toggle mode between Radio and Music Library
Mode = OPTIONS Line 1: Menu Selection Line 2: <option> Options are Random, Consume, Repeat, Reload Music, Timer, Alarm ,Alarm Time Set, Streaming:	Toggle selected mode on or off. Set timer and Alarm	Toggle selected mode on or off. Set timer and Alarm	Cycle through Random, Consume, Repeat, Reload Music, Timer, Alarm , Alarm Time Set and Streaming	Cycle through Random, Consume, Repeat, Reload Music, Timer, , Alarm Time Set and Streaming:
Mode = RSS (1) Line 1: Time Line 2: RSS feed	Volume Up Mute	Volume Down Mute	Station/Track up	Station/Track down
MODE = IP address Line 1: IP address Line 2: Station or Track	Volume Up Mute	Volume Down Mute	Scroll up through track or radio station	Scroll down through track or radio station

Note 1: If the `/var/lib/radiod/rss` file is missing or contains an invalid RSS URL then the RSS mode is skipped.

Rotary encoder operation

This option is for a radio with rotary encoders with push buttons. The volume knob when pushed in is the **Mute** sound function. Likewise the tuner knob when pushed in is the **Menu** switch.

The Menu button (Tuner knob depressed) changes the display mode and the functions of the clockwise and anti-clockwise operation of the knobs as shown in the following table.

Table 8 Rotary Encoder Knob Operation

LCD Display Mode	Volume knob		Tuner knob	
	Clockwise	Anti-clockwise	Clockwise	Anti-clockwise
Mode = TIME Line 1: Time Line 2: Station or Track	Volume Up	Volume Down	Station/Track up	Station/Track down
Mode = SEARCH If source = RADIO Line 1: Search: Line2: Radio Station	Volume Up	Volume Down	Scroll up radio station	Scroll down radio station
Mode = SEARCH If source = MUSIC LIBRARY Line 1: Search Line2: MusicTrack/Artist	Scroll up through artists	Scroll down through artists	Scroll up through track	Scroll down through track
Mode = SOURCE Line 1: Input Source: Line2: Internet Radio or Music Library	Volume Up Mute	Volume Down Mute	Toggle mode between Radio and Music Library	Toggle mode between Radio and Music Library
Mode = OPTIONS Line 1: Menu Selection Line 2: <option> Options are Random, Consume, Repeat, Reload Music, Timer, Alarm and Alarm Time set and Change colour(1)	Toggle selected mode on or off. Set timer and Alarm	Toggle selected mode on or off. Set timer and Alarm	Cycle through Random, Consume, Repeat, Reload Music, Timer, Alarm Time Set, Streaming and Background colour(1)	Cycle through Random, Consume, Repeat, Reload Music, Timer, Alarm , Alarm Time Set, Streaming and Background colour(1)
Mode = RSS (2) Line 1: Time Line 2: RSS feed	Volume Up	Volume Down	Station/Track up	Station/Track down
MODE = IP address Line 1: IP address Line 2: Station or Track	Volume Up	Volume Down	Scroll up through track or radio station	Scroll down through track or radio station

Note 1: The colour change option is only available for the AdaFruit RGB plate (ada_radio.py)

Note 2: If the `/var/lib/radiod/rss` file is missing or contains an invalid RSS URL then the RSS mode is skipped.

Mute function

Pressing both volume buttons together or in the case of a rotary encoder with a push button (Volume) will mute the radio. Press either the volume up or down switch to un-mute the radio. If you change channel or use the menu switch the radio will also be un-muted. If the alarm is set then the radio will go into sleep mode.

Playing MP3 and WMA files

The radio software also allows you to play music from the following sources:

1. From a USB stick
2. From a music partition on the SD card (Create this yourself)
3. From a Network Attached Storage (NAS)

Playing music from a USB stick

Put your music tracks on a USB stick (MP3 and WMA files only) and insert it into the USB port of the Raspberry PI. Reboot the PI. Once the Radio program is running, push the Menu button until "Input source" is displayed. Press either the left or right button to change the source to "Music Library". Now press the Menu button again. The music on the USB stick will now be loaded.

Playing music from the SD card

With large (32GB) SD cards now available music can be stored on in one or more directories on the SD card. It is necessary to first create a directory in **/home/pi** as user **pi** and then link it in the **/var/lib/mpd/music/** directory. Carry out the following instructions as user **pi** to create **mymusic** for example:

```
$ mkdir /home/pi/mymusic
$ cd /var/lib/mpd/music/
$ sudo ln -s /home/pi/mymusic
```

Using FTP, copy the music from a PC to the **/home/pi/mymusic** directory and reload the library via the options menu.

Playing music from a Network Attached Storage (NAS)

This is a bit more involved to set up. See the section called *Mounting a network drive* on page 77.

Organising the music files

For the search routines to work properly the music must be organised in a certain way. The files must be placed in the top level directory of USB stick. The search routines use the first directory as the artist's name and the music files themselves as the track name. For example:

Elvis Presley/The 50 Greatest Hits Disc 1/01 That's All Right.mp3

In the above example the first directory is set up with the artist name and this will appear in the search. The next directory "The 50 Greatest Hits Disc 1" is not used by the search routines. The file name "That's All Right.mp3" without the mp3 extension becomes the track name in this example.

MPD Logging

All logging for the MPD daemon is to the **/var/log/mpd/mpd.log** file by default.

Radio program logging

The Radio program logs to a file called **/var/log/radio.log**. See example log below:

```

2014-09-09 12:05:55,002 INFO Board revision 2
2014-09-09 12:05:55,094 INFO Radio running pid 11440
2014-09-09 12:05:55,109 INFO Radio ['/home/pi/radio/radio4.py', 'start']
daemon version 3.13
2014-09-09 12:05:55,115 INFO GPIO version 0.5.5
2014-09-09 12:05:56,018 INFO Linux raspberrypi 3.13.22+ #691 PREEMPT Wed Jun
18 18:29:58 BST 2014 armv6l GNU/Linux
2014-09-09 12:05:56,024 INFO IP 192.168.2.120
2014-09-09 12:05:56,661 INFO Board revision 2
2014-09-09 12:05:56,871 INFO Connected to MPD port 6600
2014-09-09 12:05:57,142 INFO No Icecast streaming
2014-09-09 12:05:57,147 INFO MPD started
2014-09-09 12:05:57,681 INFO mpd version: 0.16.0
2014-09-09 12:06:01,458 INFO radio.getCurrentID (28)
2014-09-09 12:06:01,560 INFO Title: NPO Radio 2
2014-09-09 12:06:01,565 INFO radio.getCurrentID (28) NPO Radio 2
2014-09-09 12:06:01,706 INFO Current ID = 28

```

There are six levels of logging namely CRITICAL, ERROR, WARNING, INFO, DEBUG or NONE. From version 4.0 onwards this is configured in the `/etc/radiod.conf` file.

```

# loglevel is CRITICAL,ERROR,WARNING,INFO,DEBUG or NONE
loglevel=INFO

```

The log level for version 3.14 and below it is configured in the `/var/lib/radiod/loglevel` file. The default is INFO. If you want to increase the logging say to DEBUG carry out the following command as root user (sudo won't work) and restart the program.

```

$ sudo bash
# echo DEBUG > /var/lib/radiod/loglevel
# service radiod restart

```

To switch off all logging carry out the following:

```

# echo NONE > /var/lib/radiod/loglevel
# service radiod restart

```

Configuration and status files

The main configuration file for version 4.0 and above is `/etc/radiod.conf`.

There are some other configuration and status files in the `/var/lib/radiod` directory. These are:

alarm	Alarm setting in t:hh:mm where t is the alarm type (t=0=off)
boardrevision	The revision of the raspberry pi board . Either 1 (old) or 2 (new)
current_station	The current radio station
current_track	The current music track
dateformat	The display format for the date (not used in 4.0 onwards)
loglevel	Log level (not used in 4.0 onwards)
mpdport	MPD conection port number (not used in 4.0 onwards)
rss	RSS feed URL
share	The NAS share instruction
stationlist	The user list of radio station URLs
status	Stored MPD status for diagnostic purposes only

streaming	Icecast2 streaming on or off
timer	Timer (Snooze) value in minutes
volume	The volume setting

It isn't normally necessary to change most of these files. However the `loglevel`, `stationlist`, `share`, `dateformat` and `rss` file will need to be edited as required (See `/etc/radiod.conf` for version 4.0 onwards). The others are maintained by the program so that when it starts up the program uses the last settings, for example, the volume setting.

Displaying an RSS feed

To display an RSS feed it is necessary to create the `/var/lib/radiod/rss` file with a valid RSS URL. For example:

```
http://feeds.bbc.co.uk/news/uk/rss.xml?edition=int
```

The above is the RSS for the BBC news however any valid RSS feed may be used. If the `/var/lib/radiod/rss` is missing or contains an invalid RSS URL then this mode is skipped when stepping through the menu. The software is provided with a valid BBC RSS feed file in the `rss` directory. You can test the feed first by pasting it into your PC's web browser URL and pressing enter.

Using the Timer and Alarm functions

Since version 3.0 of the radio program there is a timer (Snooze) and alarm function. The timer and alarm can operate individually or together. The timer when set will put the radio into Sleep Mode when the timer expires. The Alarm can be set to either On, Repeat or "Weekdays only".

Setting the Timer (Snooze)

Press the Menu button until the "Menu Selection" is displayed. Press either the channel UP or DOWN control until "Timer off" is displayed on line 2 of the LCD screen. Now push the volume UP button to set the timer. Use volume UP and DOWN to adjust the timer which will be displayed as "Timer hh:mm:ss" where hh=hours, mm=minutes and ss=seconds. The Timer can be set up to 24 hours in increments of one minute. Once the timer is set, press the Menu button; the display will return to TIME mode.

On a four line LCD display the timer will be seen counting down after the Volume display on line 4. On a two line LCD display the timer count down will be displayed on line 1 after the time display.

When the timer expires (reaches zero) the radio will enter SLEEP mode. Sleep mode can only be exited by pressing the menu button.

To switch the timer off go back to the timer menu as described above and reduce the timer to 0 using the volume DOWN control. This will switch off the timer.

The timer function uses the `/var/lib/radiod/timer` file which will contain the value of the timer in minutes when it was successfully fired. You do not need to change the contents of this file.

Setting the Alarm

The Alarm menu has two settings:

- The alarm type (On, off, repeat etc)

- The Alarm time (Pressing menu in this mode puts the radio into Sleep mode)

Press the Menu button until the “Menu Selection” is displayed. Press either the channel UP or DOWN (Or rotate rotary switch) until “Alarm off” is displayed on line 2 of the LCD screen. Using the volume UP control cycle through the options which are

- Alarm off - The Alarm is switched off
- Alarm on – The Alarm is on for one time only. Once the alarm is fired it will return to off.
- Alarm repeat – The Alarm will be repeated every day and not switched off.
- Alarm weekdays only – The Alarm will only fire Monday through Friday. It is not reset.

Now move to “Set alarm time:” using the channel UP control. The current alarm time will be displayed on line 2 of the display. Using the volume UP and DOWN control adjust the alarm time to the required setting. If you do not wish to put the radio into sleep mode at this stage then use the channel UP/DOWN control to move away from the “Set alarm time:” option and press the Menu button. If you press the Menu button whilst in the “Set alarm time:” option and the Alarm is set to anything except off then the radio will enter Sleep mode and display the alarm on line 2 for a two-line LCD or on line 4 for a four-line LCD.

Note: On the rotary encoder version of the radio turning the volume control faster up or down will increment the timer hours.

Note: Sleep mode can only be exited by pressing the Menu button.

The alarm function uses the `/var/lib/radiod/alarm` file which will contain the current alarm type and time. The format is `t:hh:mm` where t is type (0=off, 1=on, 2=repeat, 3=weekdays only) and hh:mm is hours and minutes (24 hour clock). You do not need to change the contents of this file.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE ALARM RELIES UPON THE SELECTED RADIO STREAM TO BE AVAILABLE WHEN THE ALARM WAKES UP. THIS CANNOT BE GUARANTEED AS THE STATION FEED MAY BE OFF AIR OR THERE IS A PROBLEM WITH THE INTERNET CONNECTION. YOU SHOULD NOT THEREFORE RELY SOLEY ON THIS ALARM FUNCTION IF YOU HAVE AN IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT OR A PLANE OR TRAIN TO CATCH FOR EXAMPLE. ALSO SEE DISCLAIMER ON PAGE 115.

Using the Alarm and Timer functions together

The Alarm and Timer functions can be used together. For example you want to set your radio to a 30 minute snooze time before going to sleep and to sound the alarm in the morning. Simple set the Timer to the required elapse time and then set the alarm as described in the previous section. Press the Menu button and the timer will be seen counting down followed by the alarm time on line 4 or line 1 for the four-line and two-line LCD respectively.

Music Player Clients

MPD is designed around a client/server architecture, where the clients and server (MPD is the server) interact over a network. A large number of graphical and web based clients are available for MPD and are too numerous to mention here. Please see the following link for further information on MPD clients: <http://mpd.wikia.com/wiki/Clients>. The main client used in this project is MPC.

Using the MPC client

Everything you should normally wish to do can be done using the radio. However there may be occasions that you wish to test or control music selection, volume etc. using MPC. It is also useful for diagnosing Music Player Daemon problems.

Log into the Raspberry PI using the console or SSH login. To start playing music run:

```
$ mpc play
```

To see a list of all available commands, run:

```
$ mpc help
```

Here are some frequently used **mpc** commands:

MPC command	Description
mpc	Displays status (mpc status also does the same)
mpc current	Displays currently playing station or track
mpc next	Play next song
mpc prev	Play previous song
mpc play n	Play station or track where n is the track or station number
mpc volume 75	Set volume to 75%
mpc stop	Stop playing
mpc random <on off>	Toggle shuffling of songs on or off
mpc repeat <on off>	Toggle repeating of the playlist
mpc clear	Clear the playlist
mpc consume <on off>	When playing tracks remove from the playlist once played
mpc playlist	List loaded radio stations or streams
mpc listall	List all songs in the music directory

Adafruit RGB Plate changing colours

This section is only relevant for the Adafruit RGB plate. The **ada_radio.py** program has an option to change the colour of the display. Push the menu button until “Menu selection”. Push the channel button until “Select color” is displayed. Now push the volume button to cycle through the colours. The available colours are red, green, blue, yellow, teal, violet, white or Off (No backlight).

Shutting down the radio

You can simply switch the power off. This doesn’t appear to harm the PI at all. However if you want a more orderly shutdown then press the menu button for at least three seconds. This will stop the MPD daemon and issue a shutdown request to the Raspberry PI. Wait at least another ten seconds and then power off the Radio.

Creating and Maintaining Playlist files

Creating playlists

Since version 2.3 of the radio daemon the *create_playlists.py* program is used to create playlists in the **/var/lib/mpd/playlists** file. If you are an existing user of the Radio program then please read the section on the playlists directory on page 67. If you wish to understand more about playlist files see the section called *Overview of media stream URLs* on page 71.

The directories and files used by the *create_playlists.py* program are shown in the following table:

Table 9 Playlist files and directories

Name	Type	Description
/home/pi/radio/station.urls	File	Initial distribution file containing sample stations
/var/lib/radiod/stationlist	File	The file containing the users list of radio stations
/home/pi/radio/playlists	Directory	The directory containing any user playlist files
/tmp/radio_stream_files	Directory	Temporary work directory used during processing
/var/lib/mpd/playlists	Directory	The Music Player Daemon Playlist directory

From a user point of view only the **/var/lib/radiod/stationlist** file and the **/home/pi/radio/playlists** directory are important.

During initial installation the *create_playlists.py* is run automatically. This powerful little program does the following:

1. Copies the **/home/pi/radio/station.urls** file to the **/var/lib/radiod/stationlist** file. It does this only the first time that it runs. The **station.urls** file will not normally be used again.
2. Copies all playlists it finds in the **/home/pi/radio/playlists** directory to the **/var/lib/mpd/playlists** directory (Only for backward compatibility with earlier versions).
3. It reads each entry in the **/var/lib/radiod/stationlist** file.
4. If it comes across a (<playlist name>) definition it creates a new playlist.
5. If the line read contains a station definition then it determines if the URL in the station entry is a direct radio stream (.mp3, AAC etc) or if it is a redirect URL (.pls, .asx or .m3u).
6. If it is a direct radio stream URL it creates a playlist in PLS format and in the **/tmp/radio_stream_files** directory.
7. If it is an ASX URL (.asx) it reads the contents of the ASX file and uses them to create a playlist in PLS format in the **/tmp/radio_stream_files** directory.
8. If it is a redirect URL (.pls or .m3u) gets the file pointed to in the URL and from the contents of this file it creates an entry in PLS format in the **/tmp/radio_stream_files** directory.
9. It prompts you if you wish to remove all removes all the old playlists from the **/var/lib/mpd/playlists** directory.
10. It runs the **/home/pi/radio/create_podcasts.py** program (Version 3.9 onwards)
11. It finally copies all files in the **/tmp/radio_stream_files** directory to the **/var/lib/mpd/playlists** directory.

The program itself is very easy to use. Just run it as sudo or root user in the **/home/pi/radio** directory:

```
$ cd /home/pi/radio
$ sudo ./create_playlists.py
```

This will create a set of playlist files in the **/var/lib/mpd/playlists** directory. The **/var/lib/radiod/stationlist** file contains a list of entries describing the radio station to be loaded.

To create a log file of the program run the following:

```
$ sudo ./create_playlists.py | tee playlist.log
```

You can examine the `playlist.log` file to see what actions the `create_playlists.py` program carried out and if there were any errors.

The program will ask if you wish to delete any old playlists:

```
There are 8 old playlist files in the /var/lib/mpd/playlists/ directory.
Do you wish to remove the old files y/n: y
```

Normally answer 'y' unless you don't wish to remove the old files. Note that old playlists files with the same name as the new ones will always be overwritten. Any custom play lists should be copied to the **/home/pi/radio/playlists** directory anyway. They will then always be copied back to the **/var/lib/mpd/playlists** directory by the `create_playlists.py` program.

If you want to avoid the above prompt then there are two other parameters that you may use.

--delete_old	Delete old playlist files in the MPD playlist directory
--no_delete	Don't delete old playlist files in the MPD playlist directory

Example:

```
$ sudo ./create_playlists.py --no_delete
```

Finally there is a help parameter:

```
$ sudo ./create_playlists.py --help
```

The stationlist file

The **/var/lib/radiod/stationlist** file is the file that should be maintained by you to create playlists. When this `create_playlists.py` program is first run it copies the distribution file **station.urls** to the **/var/lib/radiod/stationlist** file. You may then modify the **/var/lib/radiod/stationlist** file.

The format is: **(<playlist name>)**

Example: **(BBC Radio Stations)**

The above will create a playlist called **BBC_Radio_Stations.pl** and will contain the title and URLs for each station. Now add or remove radio station definitions in the **stationlist** file. The first statement in the station definition is the name of the playlist in brackets:

The format is: **[<title>] http://<url>**

Example: **[BBC Radio 4 extra] http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio/listen/live/r4x.asx**

After modifying the stationlist file run the *create_playlists.py* program to create the Music Player Daemon playlists.

The *create_playlists.py* program creates file names using the title so in the above example the file will be called *BBC_Radio_4_extra.pls* (The AS format will be converted to PLS format). If this file already exists the new file will be renamed as *BBC_Radio_4_extra[1].pls*. If that file also exists the program will keep incrementing the number in brackets until the name is unique. This is one of the reasons the files are created in a temporary directory first. Try to create unique titles in the **stationlist** file to avoid this.

If no title is found then the site name will be used with dots turned into underscores. For example if the following is defined without a title and no title is found:

```
[http://bbc.co.uk/radio/listen/live/r1.asx
```

This will create a playlist file called *bbc_co_uk.pls*. If this already exists it will be renamed to *bbc_co_uk[1].pls*. If that file also exists the program will keep incrementing the number in brackets until the name is unique. It is therefore always better to define a title.

The playlists directory

There is a playlists directory in **/home/pi/radio** directory. This is meant for existing users to store their existing playlist files or to store playlist files (.pls or m3u) or playlist files which have been manually created. When the *create_playlists.py* program is run, the first thing it does is to copy the playlist files in the **/home/pi/radio/playlists** directory to the **/var/lib/mpd/playlists**.

Existing users should backup all of their playlist files and move all existing playlist files to the **/home/pi/radio/playlists** directory.

```
$ cd /home/pi
$ tar -cvf playlists.tar /var/lib/mpd/playlists/*
$ sudo mv /var/lib/mpd/playlists/* /home/pi/radio/playlists/.
```

Run the *create_playlists.py* program to create the new playlists in the MPD playlist directory.

Note: Existing users should try to migrate their existing URLs to the **/var/lib/radiod/stationlist** format. This will be much quicker and easier than trying to maintain the playlist files directly.

Playing podcasts

The playing of podcasts is now supported from version 3.9 of the radio software onwards. A podcast (or netcast) is a digital medium consisting of a series of audio, video, PDF, or ePub files which a user can subscribed to and stream to a computer or mobile device, or in this case the Pi radio. Podcasts can be music, news or any other media content.

For more general information on podcasts see the following link:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Podcast>

Note: Podcast URLs can contain many MP3 streams, sometimes 600 or more. These are designed to be viewed in a browser. The radio only has an LCD screen and a text based menu for searching through potentially thousands of stations. This would simply not be practical except for news feeds where only one or two would be of interest (i.e. the latest news).

An example Podcast URL from the BBC Global news service is shown below:

<http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/worldservice/globalnews/rss.xml>

This is a special kind of web page in a format called XML (Extensible Markup Language). If you open this link you will see a page similar to that shown below:

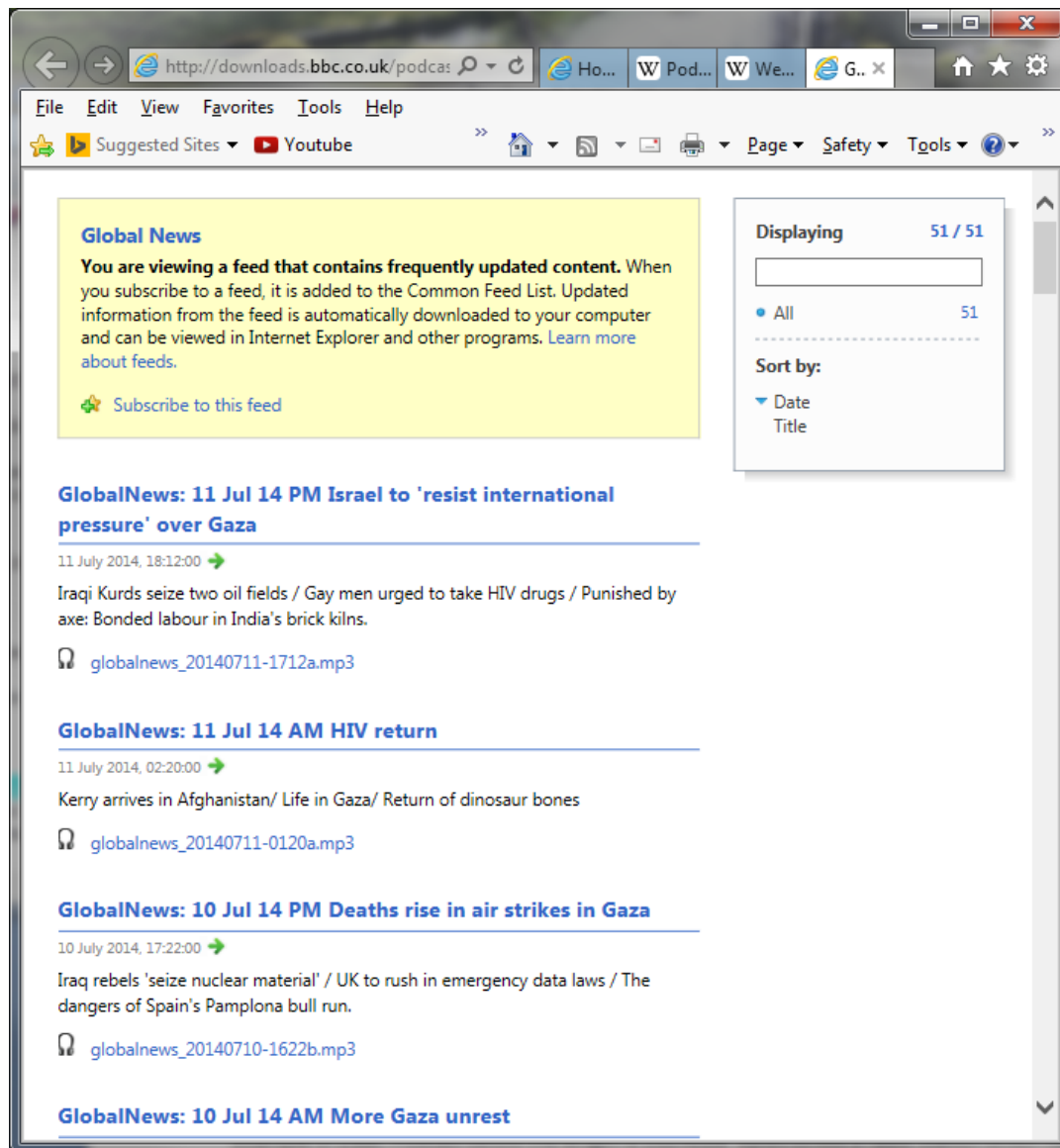


Figure 55 Example Podcast from the BBC

The radio software can only make use of the audio (MP3) content of the Podcast for example **globalnews_20140711-1712a.mp3** as shown above,

The audio streams (MP3) from a podcast are store in a playlist just like a radio station as described in the section called *Overview of media stream URLs* on page 71. However there are some differences.

The first of these is that unlike regular radio stations these streams have a finite length. In the example of a BBC Podcast below the length is 13274399 bytes unlike a radio station which has a length of -1 (infinite length).

```
[playlist]
NumberOfEntries=1
Version=2
File1=http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/worldservice/globalnews/globalnews_20140711-1712a.mp3
Title1=GlobalNews: 11 Jul 14 PM Israel to 'resist international pressure' over Gaza
Length1=13274399
```

The second feature of Podcasts is that the content regularly changes. The first entry for the news from the 11th of July will be replaced the news for the 12th of July the next day and so on. This means that the PLS files for Podcasts must be regularly updated to reflect the new content.

The last consideration is that a Podcast such as the example may contain 20 or more podcasts for the news from previous days which may not be of interest. You would probably only be interested in the latest news. Each podcast audio entry would be seen as a separate radio station meaning twenty or more radio stations in this case with old news.

From version 3.9 of the radio software the playlists for Podcast audio feeds are created using the **create_podcasts.py** program. This takes as input a file called **/var/lib/radiod/podcasts**. The format of this file is similar to the one for defining a station:

```
[<title>] <url>
Or
[<title>:n] <url>
```

Where n is the number of podcasts to be extracted from the Podcast URL. If no length is given all the audio streams will be extracted from the Podcasts. However MPD cannot support playlists greater than 350 stations in length and simply will not load the playlist. The **create_podcasts.py** program will create all of the entries it finds (even if that exceeds 350) but will limit the amount of entries it will load to 250. See the **MAX_ENTRIES** statement in the **create_podcasts.py** program.

```
MAX_ENTRIES = 250          # Maximum amount of entries in a playlist
```

Example **/var/lib/radiod/podcasts** file

```
[BBC global news:1]
http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/worldservice/globalnews/rss.xml
[Irish Music:2] http://feeds.feedburner.com/mage/irish
```

Note: The BBC entry is all on one line in the real file. An example podcast file is released as a file called **podcasts.dist** and is copied one time only to **/var/lib/radiod/podcasts**. The latter file is the one you should modify.

This means extract the audio stream only from the BBC podcast and the first two audio streams of Irish music Podcast. When the **create_podcasts.py** program is run using the above **/var/lib/radiod/podcasts** file the following output is displayed:

```
$ sudo /home/pi/radio/create_podcasts.py
BBC global news:1
```



```

Processing podcast 1:
http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/worldservice/globalnews/rss.xml
Title 1 GlobalNews: 11 Jul 14 PM Israel to 'resist international pressure'
over Gaza
http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/worldservice/globalnews/globalnews_20140
711-1712a.mp3 13274399
Creating /var/lib/mpd/playlists/BBC_global_news.pls
Loading BBC_global_news.pls

Irish Music:2
Processing podcast 2: http://feeds.feedburner.com/mage/irish
Title 1 #164: Sailing the Dark Windy Seas
http://feedproxy.google.com/~r/mage/irish/~5/Eb1lcOV3fTs/IrishCelticMusic-
164.mp3 57689871
Title 2 #163: Homesick for Ireland
http://feedproxy.google.com/~r/mage/irish/~5/7CD_RFnVGxo/IrishCelticMusic-
163.mp3 57513409
Creating /var/lib/mpd/playlists/Irish_Music.pls
Loading Irish_Music.pls

```

In this example two PLS files called **BBC_global_news.pls** and **Irish_Music.pls** are created in the **/var/lib/mpd/playlists** directory. The program also loads these playlists into the MPD database.

Note: If new playlists are added or old ones removed from the **/var/lib/mpd/playlists** directory, it is necessary to reload the radio stations either using the menu on the radio or by restarting the radio.

Regular updating of the playlists can be done by creating a so-called **cron** job. The **cron** daemon regularly runs jobs it finds in the **/etc/cron.daily**, **/etc/cron.hourly**, **/etc/cron.monthly**, **/etc/cron.weekly** or **/etc/crontab** directories. By adding a job called **podcast** to **/etc/cron.hourly** directory the Podcast playlists files will be updated every hour.

The **/etc/cron.hourly/podcast** file

```

#!/bin/bash
# Create podcasts from list in podcast file

if [[ -f /var/lib/radiod/podcasts ]]; then
    echo "Create podcasts `date`" > /var/log/podcasts.log 2>&1
    sudo /home/pi/radio/create_podcasts.py >> /var/log/podcasts.log 2>&1

```

The above file is created by the installation program.

This **cron** job logs its output to the **/var/log/podcasts.log** file. This **crontab** file is automatically installed by the Debian package installer so there is no need to create it.

Note: The **create_playlists.py** calls the **create_podcasts.py** program as from version 3.9 onwards.

Radio stream resources on the Internet

There are a lot of resources on the Internet how to find PLS and M3U files so simply search for “PLS or M3U files” through the search machine of your choice. Below are some good sources of radio streams around the world.

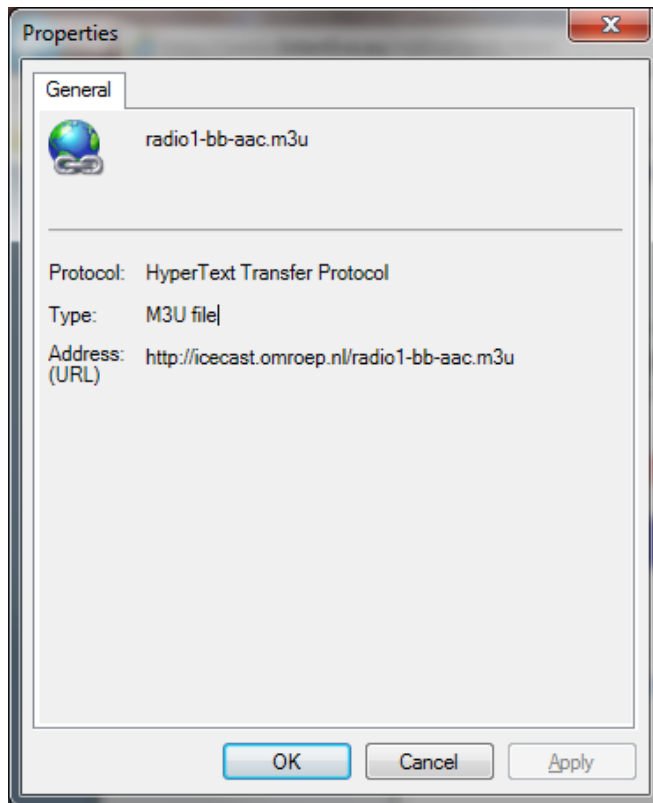
<http://www.listenlive.eu>

<http://www.radio-locator.com>

<http://bbcstreams.com/>

For UK and Irish listeners
<http://www.radiofeeds.co.uk/>

To copy a URL open the web page in any browser on a PC and right click on the URL. Select properties from the drop down list. For internet explorer will show a window similar to the following will be displayed:



Copy and paste the URL into the `/var/lib/radiod/stationlist` file. Add the title in square brackets as shown in the previous section. Other browsers may provide options such as 'copy link' or 'save link as'. This is browser dependant.

Overview of media stream URLs

A deep understanding of this section is not necessary but can help in creating playlists. This section is provided for background information only. At first the whole business of how music streams are provided can be quite confusing. The URLs on a radio station web page can be of different types, for example:

1. A URL pointing to a PLS playlist file (Shoutcast Play List)
2. A URL pointing to a M3U playlist file (MPEG3 URL)
3. A URL pointing to an ASX playlist file (Advanced Stream Redirector)
4. A URL which is an actual stream such as MP3 (MPEG 3) or AAC (Advanced Audio Coding)

1, 2 and 3 are so called redirector URLs and point to a playlist file containing one or more URLs to the radio stream(s) itself. The `create_playlists.py` program tries to figure out what type of URL that it is

and create a playlist from it. This is the facility you should use rather than trying to create your own playlists which can be quite time consuming.

PLS file format

A good place to start is the following Wikipedia article:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PLS_\(file_format\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PLS_(file_format))

A PLS playlist file does not contain any music files itself, but rather points to music files stored elsewhere. The PLS file format is often used to play Internet radio streams, for example, if you want to play a radio stream from Shoutcast, you can copy the PLS file URL of the station from the site and play it in a desktop media player like Winamp. A PLS file will be similar to below

```
[playlist]
NumberOfEntries=2
Version=2
File1=http://206.217.213.16:8430
Title1=Blues Radio UK
Length1=-1
File2=http://205.164.62.13:8030
Title2=Absolute Blues Hits
Length2=-1
```

The PLS file must always start with the **[playlist]** statement. The **NumberOfEntries** statement must match the number of streams defined in the PLS file (Two in the above example). Set the **Version** number always to 2.

There must be a *File_n*, *Title_n* and *Length_n* where *n* is the entry number.

M3U Files

M3U stands for MPEG3 URL. The following Wikipedia article explains the M3U file format:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M3U>

An example [M3U](#) file is shown below:

radio10.m3u playlist file

```
#EXTM3U
#EXTINF:-1, Radio 10 Gold NL
http://icecast.streaming.castor.nl:80/radio10
```

These playlist files must have the m3u file extension. i.e. **<filename>.m3u**

The first line is the header and must be #EXTM3U. The second line is #EXTINF: and is information about the radio stream. The -1 means unlimited play length. This is followed by a comma and then the name of the radio station (*Radio 10 Gold* in this case). The third line is the URL (icecast in this case) for the radio stream. More than one radio stream may be defined in the m3u file. Simply add extra #EXTINF and URL lines for each radio stream.

ASX file

The Advanced Stream Redirector (ASX) format is a type of XML metafile designed to store a playlist of Windows Media files for a multimedia presentation. An example ASX file is shown below.

```
<ASX version="3.0">

<ABSTRACT>http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/radio/bbc_radio_bristol/</ABSTRACT>
  <TITLE>BBC Bristol</TITLE>
  <AUTHOR>BBC</AUTHOR>
  <COPYRIGHT>(c) British Broadcasting Corporation</COPYRIGHT>
  <MOREINFO
HREF="http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/radio/bbc_radio_bristol/" />
  <PARAM NAME="HTMLView"
VALUE="http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/radio/bbc_radio_bristol/" />
  <Entry>
    <ref href="mms://wmlive-
nonacl.bbc.net.uk/wms/england/lrbristol?BBC-
UID=1523a2f20f858eb0ba0a4385918e6433df886bb650e021b4446ff486f8204e3a&SSO
2-UID=" />
  </Entry>
</ASX>
```

Direct stream URLs

These URLs tend to end with .mp3 or _SC or AAC etc. However there are others. For example:

<http://mp3.streampower.be/radio1-high.mp3>

http://7639.live.streamtheworld.com:80/977_MIX_SC

You can determine if a URL is a direct radio stream by using the **wget** program.

```
# cd /tmp
# wget http://mp3.streampower.be/radio1-high.mp3
--2014-03-14 13:08:10-- http://mp3.streampower.be/radio1-high.mp3
Resolving mp3.streampower.be (mp3.streampower.be)... 80.200.255.61
Connecting to mp3.streampower.be (mp3.streampower.be)|80.200.255.61|:80...
connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK
Length: unspecified [audio/mpeg]
Saving to: `radio1-high.mp3'

[          <=>          ]
365,281      15.8K/s
```

If **wget** doesn't exit and you see the <=> characters moving backwards and forwards then it is a URL to the radio stream itself. You will also see *Length: unspecified* in the output. Press control -C to exit **wget**. Remove the file that **wget** created (/tmp/radio-high.mp3 in this case).

Installing the Web interface

MPD has several web clients. See the following link: <http://mpd.wikia.com/wiki/Clients>. The one used in this example is called snoopy is released with version 1.16 onwards of the radio software.

Install Apache

Install Apache the web server. Make sure that the system is up to date with the following command.

```
$ sudo apt-get update
```

Now install Apache and the PHP libraries for Apache as user root.

```
$ sudo bash
# apt-get install apache2 php5 libapache2-mod-php5
```

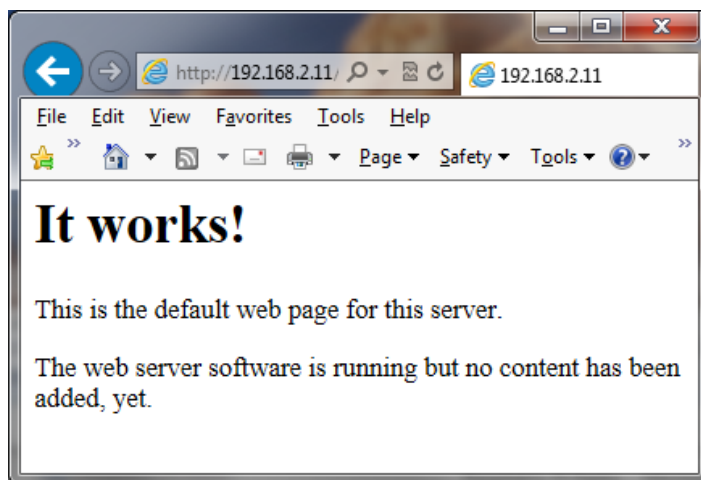
This will take some time. If the above fails run the following command:

```
# apt-get -f install
```

Test the Apache web browser

Point your web browser at the IP address of the Raspberry PI. For example: <http://192.168.2.11> .

You should see the following display.



Install the Web Browser server pages

It is now necessary to install the web pages for the Radio. Download the radio web pages Debian package from the Bob Rathbone web site:

```
$ wget http://www.bobrathbone.com/raspberrypi/packages/radiodweb_1.0_armhf.deb
```

Now run:

```
$ sudo dpkg -i radiodweb_1.0_armhf.deb
```

This package will install the radio web pages in the **/var/www** directory and the CGI scripts in **/usr/lib/cgi-bin** directory.

Start the radio web interface

Point your web browser at the IP address of the Raspberry PI. For example: <http://192.168.2.11> .
You should see the following display:



Figure 56 Radio web interface

Now click on the 'Web interface tab'. If the radio software is running you will see the following:

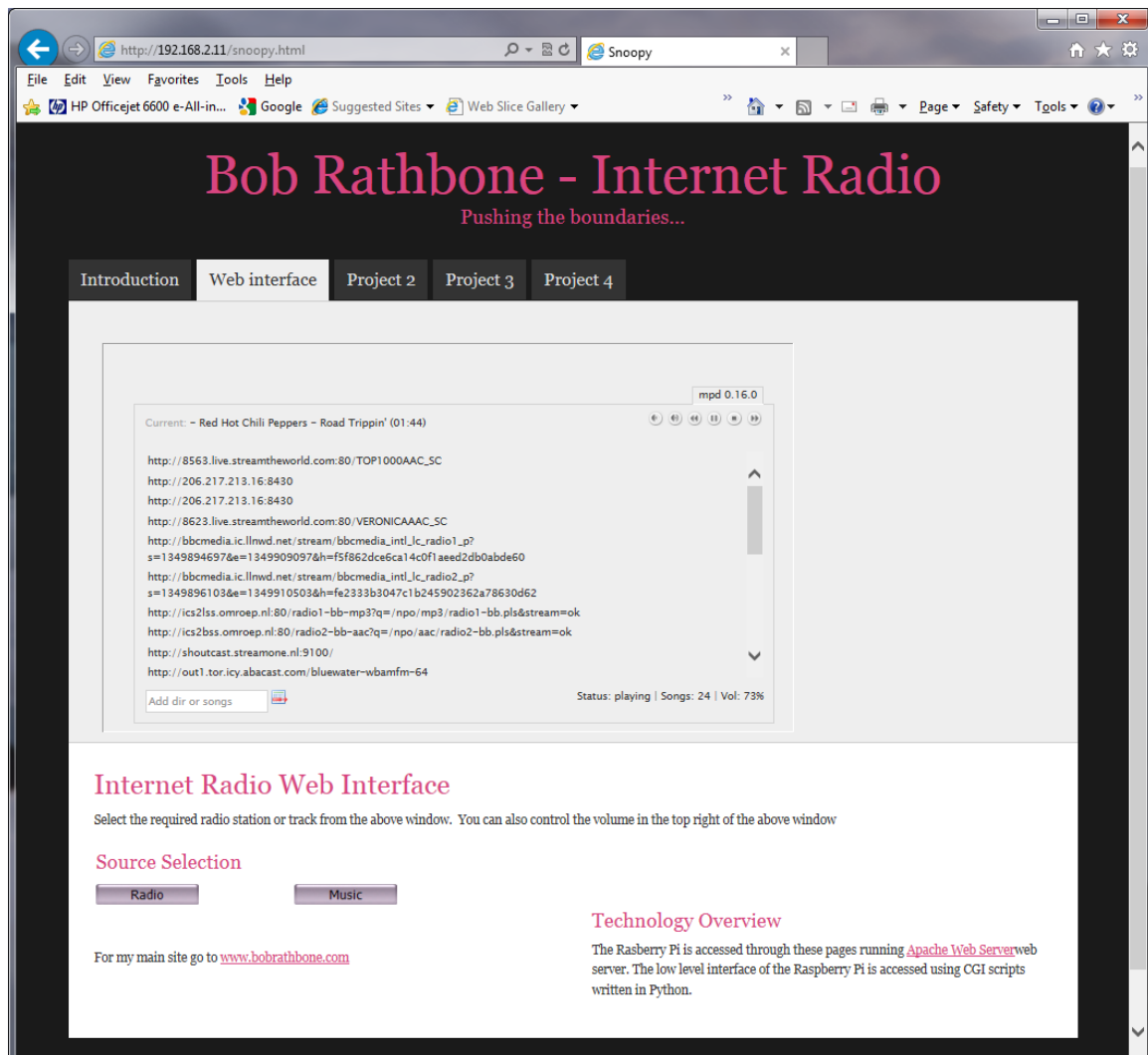


Figure 57 Snoopy web interface

Click on any station on the list to select a station. The Radio and Music buttons select the source.

Mounting a network drive

It is very likely that you may have your music on a shared network drive and want to play the music through the radio. There are two main types of network drive protocols used by Raspbian Wheezy on the Raspberry Pi namely:

- CIFS – Common Internet File System
- NFS – Network File System

There is a third type of network file protocol called SMB (Server Message Block – Microsoft) but is replaced by CIFS in the Raspberry PI. Your PC will be using SMB most probably but CIFS also supports this interface. The steps to mount the network drive are as follows:

1. Find out the IP address of your network drive.
2. Create and test the mount command using either NFS or CIFS.
3. Copy the mount command to **/var/lib/radiod/share** file.
4. In the Radio menu select “Music Library” as the source and press “Menu” again to load
5. Update the playlists to include the files on the new share (Network drive).

This procedure assumes that you already have your Network Drive configured and working with your PC and can play music via the PC. In the examples below a Synology Network Drive was used with a volume called Volume1 with a directory called “music”. The IP address for the Synology Network drive used was 192.168.2.6.

First stop the Radio software when creating and testing the mount command.

Don’t configure **/etc/fstab** to do the mount of the network drive. Although this is the usual way of mounting shares however the radio program needs total control of the mount and un-mount process.

The general syntax for the mount command is as follows:

```
mount -t <type> -o option1,option2,... <remote IP address and directory>  
<mount point>
```

Where: <type> is either **nfs** or **cifs**.

-o option1,option2 are the mount options.

<remote IP address and directory> Is the IP address and music directory path

<mount point> This will always be /share for this program

Finding the IP address of the network drive

Only general guidance can be given here. Nearly all network drives have a web interface. The IP address was almost certainly provided from DHCP in your home router. The IP address will be the IP address of the Web Interface. Look at your network drive documentation for further information.

The CIFS mount command

The following example mount command assumes that you have a guest user configured with password ‘guest’. Adapt the command as required.

```
mount -t cifs -o username=guest,password=guest,uid=pi,gid=pi //192.168.2.6/music /share
```

The above command is all on one line. The **uid** and **gid** parameters set the ownership of the music files to user **pi**. The share directory is created when you first run the Radio program so there is no need to create it. If the command was successful you should be able to display the music from the network drive. Go to section called *Display the share directory* on page 78.

Older NAS drives sec security option

Older NSA drives may also require the **sec=ntlm** option to the **-o** line. The **sec** option is the authentication protocol and determines how passwords are encrypted between the server and client. Security mode **ntlm** used to be the default authentication method but that is now become **ntlmssp**. If you are accessing a network drive which doesn't support **ntlmssp** you have to add **sec=ntlm** to the options as shown below:

```
-o username=guest,password=guest,uid=pi,gid=pi,sec=ntlm
```

Many NAS devices use older technology so they often only use **ntlm** authentication. There are other authentication methods such as **ntlmv2** but most are not currently supported with the Raspberry Pi OS.

The NFS mount command

The following NFS mount example assumes the NFS protocol has been configured for the music directory.

```
mount -t nfs -o ro,nolock 192.168.2.6:/volume1/music /share
```

A few things to note here; the NFS mount command uses the volume name (Volume1), The CIFS mount command doesn't. The second thing is that the IP address and remote directory are separated by a colon (:). If the command was successful you should be able to display the music from the network drive.

Display the share directory

If the mount was successful using either CIFS or NFS you should be able to display the **/share** directory with the **ls** command.

```
# ls -la /share
total 4
drwxrwxrwx 85 pi pi 0 May 10 14:18 .
drwxr-xr-x 23 root root 4096 Jul 15 17:57 ..
drwxrwxrwx 4 pi pi 0 May 10 14:16 Albert Hammond
drwxrwxrwx 3 pi pi 0 May 10 14:16 Alexander Curly
drwxrwxrwx 3 pi pi 0 May 10 14:16 Allen Price & Georgie Fame
drwxrwxrwx 3 pi pi 0 May 10 14:16 Al Martino
drwxrwxrwx 3 pi pi 0 May 10 14:16 Animals
drwxrwxrwx 4 pi pi 0 May 10 14:16 Aretha Franklin
drwxrwxrwx 3 pi pi 0 May 10 14:16 Armand
```

The important thing apart from seeing the files is that you should see that the files are owned by pi and group pi.

Un-mounting the /share directory

To un-mount the share directory use the **umount** command (not unmount).

```
# umount /share
```

Copy the mount command to the configuration

Once the mount command is working copy it to the **/var/lib/radiod/share** file.

For example for the CIFS mount command.

```
# echo "mount -t cifs -o username=guest,password=guest,uid=pi,gid=pi  
//192.168.2.6/music /share" > /var/lib/radiod/share
```

The above command is all on one line.

Load the music library

Now run the radio program. The radio stations will be loaded. Cycle through the menu until **Input Source:** is displayed. Press the channel up or down buttons to select **Music Library**.

Now press the **Menu** button. The program loads whatever playlists it has in its database, and will most likely be only those from the USB stick if installed. However the *playlist* for the new share files are not yet in the MPD database. The playlist needs to be updated in the following section.

Update the playlists for the new share

Select Music Library Now cycle through the menu until **Menu Selection:** is displayed. Press the channel up or down buttons until the **Update list:No** is displayed. Use the Volume buttons to toggle the display to **Update list:Yes**.

Now press the Menu button. This will cause the MPD database to be cleared and updated from all the files loaded in the **/var/lib/mpd/music** directory including the new share. This can take some time (Several minutes) if the Network Drive contains a large amount of music files. During this process the Radio program will ignore any button depressions and you will see the first **Initialising** (Library) and then **Updating** (Library).

Disabling the share

To disable the share simply put a hash character (#) at the beginning of the line in the **/var/lib/radiod/share** file as shown in the example below. Alternatively remove the share file altogether.

```
# mount -t cifs -o username=guest,password=guest //192.168.2.6/music /share
```

Further information

For your information if you display the **/var/lib/mpd/music** directory you will see two soft links to the **/share** and **/media** directories for the network drive and USB stick respectively.

```
# ls -la /var/lib/mpd/music/  
total 8  
drwxr-xr-x 2 root root 4096 May 19 11:17 .  
drwxr-xr-x 4 mpd audio 4096 May 16 19:02 ..  
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 6 May 19 11:17 media -> /media  
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 6 May 19 11:17 share -> /share
```

These links are created automatically by the Radio program. If these are missing they can be re-created with the `ln -s` command.

```
# cd /var/lib/mpd/music  
# ln -s /media  
# ln -s /share
```

This shouldn't normally be necessary as the links are created by the program when it creates the media and share mount points.

Source files

The source consists of several source modules all written in Python using Object Orientated techniques. The source will be visible in the **/home/pi/radio** directory once the Radio package has been installed. The radio Debian package is available at http://www.bobrathbone.com/pi_radio_source.htm .

For those who want to develop their own product all source is also available from Github. See *Downloading the source from github* on page 84.

The LCD Class

The LCD *lcd_class.py* class handles all of the LCD display routines. It contains simple commands to display and scroll lines of text on the HDD44780 2 x 16 LCD or 4 x 20 characters LCD. It is a useful standalone class that can be used in other projects. It is based on the routines from Matt Hawkins.

The Radio Daemon

There are four versions of this program for the HDD44780 LCD (directly wired to the GPIO pins). See

The *radiod.py* source provides the logic for operating the radio. It reads the push button switches and configuration files, loads the music files and radio stations. It is used with a 16 character two line LCD.

The *radio4.py* source provides the same logic for operating the radio but for a 20 character four line LCD.

The *rradiod.py* source is the version used with rotary encoder switches. It is used with a 16 character two line LCD.

The *rradio4.py* source is the version used with rotary encoder switches. It is used with a 20 character four line LCD.

The Adafruit Radio daemon

If you are an Adafruit RGB-backlit LCD plate for Raspberry Pi then the following programs are used:

<i>ada_radio.py</i>	The radio daemon for the Adafruit LCD plate.
<i>ada_lcd_class.py</i>	The LCD class using an I2C interface (Also interfaces the switches).
<i>i2c_class.py</i>	The IC2 class courtesy of Adafruit Industries (renamed).
<i>test_ada_lcd.py</i>	Test Adafruit LCD and switches.

The LCD with I2C backpack

This has been introduced in version 3.13 onwards. It supports the Adafruit LCD backpack using the I2C interface. See the section called *Construction using an I2C LCD backpack* on page 33 It is used by the *radiobp.py* 2 line LCD) and *radiobp4.py* (4 line LCD) programs only.

The Daemon Class

The *radio_daemon.py* code allows the radio program to run as a background daemon. It allows start, stop, restart, version and status commands.

The Radio Class

The *radio_class.py* contains the actual commands that interface to the Music Player Daemon (MPD).

The Rotary class

The *rotary_class.py* configures and handles the interrupts (events) for the rotary encoders. It is used by the *rradiod.py* and *rradio4.py* programs. Also see the alternative below.

The alternative Rotary class

The *rotary_class_alternative.py* file is an alternative rotary encoder class. Certain Rotary Encoders will not work with the current version of the Rotary class, for example those from **TT Electronics**. To use this alternative rotary class save the standard one first and copy the alternative one to *rotary_class.py*. The two classes work in very similar ways and it is difficult to say when you will need to use this alternative class.

```
$ cp rotary_class.py rotary_class.py.orig
$ cp rotary_class.py.alternative rotary_class.py
```

The Log class

The *log_class.py* routine provides logging of events to */var/log/radio.log* file.

The Configuration Class

This class reads and stores the radio configuration from the */etc/radiod.conf* file

The RSS class

The *rss_class.py* routines allow sequential gets from an RSS feed. These feeds are provided from news providers such as the BBC. This class gets the RSS feed defined in the */var/lib/radiod/rss* file.

The Translate class

The *translate_class.py* is used to convert special international character sets (particularly from RSS feeds). It does this by first converting them to escape sequences and then to displayable *ascii* characters (These will show up in DEBUG logging). These *ascii* characters are then passed to the LCD class where they may be converted again to a valid character in the standard LCD character set.

LCD test programs

The *lcd_test.py* program provides some simple code to test the LCD. The *test_ada_lcd.py* program is used to test the LCD if you are using an Adafruit RGB-backlit LCD plate for the Raspberry PI.

Switch test programs

The *test_rotary_class.py* program can be used to check the rotary switches.
The *test_switches.py* program is used to test the push button wiring.

The `create_playlists` program

The `create_playlists.py` program is available from version 2.3 of the software onwards. It creates playlist files in the `/var/lib/mpd` directory using a list of web links (URLs) with titles as input. The original `create_playlists.py` program created a single playlist for each radio station but this wasn't particularly efficient particularly when loading the radio stations. Since version 3.5 the `create_playlists.py` program allows a group of radio stations to be grouped into a single playlist. The operation of the `create_playlists.py` program is covered in detail in the section on managing playlist files on page 65.

The `create_podcasts.py` program

The `create_podcasts.py` program is available from version 3.9 of the software onwards. It creates playlist files in the `/var/lib/mpd` directory using a file containing podcast definitions. See the section called Playing podcasts on page 67.

The `display_current` program

The `display_current.py` program is available from version 3.5 of the software onwards. This is a small diagnostic program which displays the information for the current radio station or track. It is only used for trouble-shooting and it will not normally be used.

The `display_model` script

The `display_model.py` program is available from version 3.9 of the software onwards. It displays the revision, cpu, memory and maker (If known) of the board. It is only used for trouble-shooting and it will not normally be used.

The `select_daemon.sh` script

The `select_daemon.sh` script is normally called during installation of the Radio Debian package but may be run by the user at any time. It selects the correct board revision and radio program variant.

The remote control daemon

The remote control daemon consists of the `piface_remote.py` or `remote_control.py` and the `rc_daemon.py` program files. The `remote_control.py` program is for use with the LCD version of the radio and the `piface_remote.py` program is used with the PiFace CAD board. There is a service start stop script called `/etc/init.d/pifacercd`. This is configured for the correct program by the `select_daemon.sh` program during installation. From 4.7 onwards the `udp_server_class.py` program is used for communication between the remote control daemon and the radio program.

The UDP network communications class

From version 4.7 onwards the remote control daemon uses the `udp_server_class.py` program which communicates over the local TCP/IP network using UDP port 5100 as the default; however the port is configurable in `/etc/radiod.conf`. When a button is pressed on the remote control this program sends the button identity (See Table 6 Remote Control Key names) to a UDP server running in the radio program.

Button press → IR remote control daemon → UDP message over network → Radio program.

Downloading the source from github

This is only of interest if you wish develop your own version of the Raspberry PI radio based upon the mainstream source code. Otherwise simply install the Install the Radio Daemon the radio software as shown on page 42. Note: This may be out of date compared to the latest version.

You can view the Raspberry PI source at <https://github.com/bobrathbone/piradio>

Before you can download the source from **Github** it is necessary to install **git**. For more information on **git** see [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Git_\(software\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Git_(software))

Install **git** with the following command:

```
$ sudo apt-get install git
```

Make a development directory and change to it:

```
$ mkdir /home/pi/develop
$ cd /home/pi/develop
```

Now clone the github piradio repository:

```
$ git clone git://github.com/bobrathbone/piradio
Cloning into 'piradio'...
remote: Counting objects: 71, done.
remote: Compressing objects: 100% (52/52), done.
remote: Total 71 (delta 13), reused 64 (delta 9)
Receiving objects: 100% (71/71), 185.33 KiB | 334 KiB/s, done.
Resolving deltas: 100% (13/13), done.
```

This will create a sub-directory called 'piradio' which will contain the entire source. Also in the **/home/pi/develop/piradio** directory you will also see a directory called **.git** (dot-git). This is the control directory for **git**.

Note: Don't forget that if you use the **service radiod stop|start** commands that this will start and stop the software in contained in **/home/pi/radio** (If you installed from the package).

You will not necessarily need to use **git** any further unless you wish to save your changes under **git** control. To find out more about **git** and for general support and documentation see <http://git-scm.com>

The files to build the packages are contained in compressed tar files. These are *piradio_build.tar.gz* and *piradio_web_build.tar.gz* for the radio and web software respectively.

Contributors code

The **contributors** directory contains software contributed by other constructors. The code in these sub-directories is provided "as is" and without warranties. Neither can any guarantees be given that the software in these sub-directories will be compatible with future releases of the main-stream software. Absolutely no support is provided. However a useful README file is included each sub-directory.

Miscellaneous

Using the Adafruit backlit RGB LCD display

The Adafruit backlit RGB LCD has three LED backlights (Red, Blue and Green) which can either be switched on individually or in various combinations together as shown in the table below:

Table 10 Adafruit backlit RGB display wiring

Switch pin	Red (Pin 16)	Green (Pin 17)	Blue (Pin 18)	Colour	Diodes required
1	0	0	0	Off	0
2	0	0	1	Blue	0
3	0	1	0	Green	0
4	0	1	1	Light Blue	2
5	1	0	0	Red	0
6	1	0	1	Purple	2
7	1	1	0	Yellow	2
8	1	1	1	White	3
Common	GND				

The diodes used are any low voltage low current diodes (Not signal diodes).

So to use all of the above combinations would require a single pole 8 way rotary switch or logic. The first switch position is off. Wire the centre pin of the switch to 0v (GND).

- Wire pin 16 (Blue) of the LCD backlight to switch position 2.
- Wire pin 17 (Green) of the LCD to switch position 3
- Wire pin 18 (Red) of the LCD to switch position 5
- Wire pin 17 and 18 via two diodes to pin 4 to give the colour light blue
- Do the same for the other two colour combinations
- Wire pin 16, 17 and 18 to pin 8 via three diodes to give the colour white

Using a 4 line by 16 character LCD

There are various LCDs on the market including a 16 character four line version.

To use this type of display modify the **lcd_class.py** program file as shown below.

```
LCD_LINE_3 = 0x94 # LCD RAM address for the 3rd line
LCD_LINE_4 = 0xD4 # LCD RAM address for the 4th line
# Some LCDs use different addresses (16 x 4 line LCDs)
# Comment out the above two lines and uncomment the two lines below
# LCD_LINE_3 = 0x90 # LCD RAM address for the 3rd line
# LCD_LINE_4 = 0xD0 # LCD RAM address for the 4th line
```

So the new lines are:

```
LCD_LINE_3 = 0x90 # LCD RAM address for the 3rd line
LCD_LINE_4 = 0xD0 # LCD RAM address for the 4th line
```

Also edit either the **radio4.py** or **rradio4.py** program depending on which you are using. Find the `lcd.setWidth(20)` line and amend it to:

```
lcd.setWidth(16)
```

Troubleshooting

Also see the section called *Using the diagnostic programs* on page 92.

LCD screen not working

Check that the wiring conforms to the *wiring list* on page 20. Make sure that pin 3 is grounded (0V) to give maximum contrast or if a contrast potentiometer is fitted then make sure it is at the maximum setting. If you are using the Adafruit LCD plate the make sure that you are running the **ada_radio.py** program and not one of the other programs (See Table 1 on page 20).

Run the *lcd_test.py* program to see if the LCD displays anything. This runs independently of any other software and can be used stand alone.

The LCD only displays hieroglyphics

This can be caused either by incorrect wiring of the LCD or the incorrect selection of the board revision during installation. This problem has also been experienced with faulty LCD hardware particularly when re-booting the Raspberry PI.

Check the wiring conforms to the *wiring list* on page 20. In particular check the data lines to pins 11, 12, 13 and 14 (See **Note:** Not all manufacturers' rotary encoders will work with this project. If they work then fine if not regrettably you will need to purchase the recommended encoders.

LCD Module Wiring on page 24). Retest the LCD using the *lcd_test.py* program.

If the wiring is correct run the *select_daemon.sh* script to select the correct revision of the board and restart the program.

The LCD displays hieroglyphics or goes blank occasionally

If the LCD is normally working OK but goes wrong when switching on and off lights this is due to Electromagnetic Interference (EMI). See the section called *Preventing electrical interference* on page 26.

LCD backlight not working

Check that pins 15 and 16 of the LCD display have +5V and 0V(GND) respectively. See on page 24.

LCD only displays dark blocks on the first line

This is normal when the raspberry PI starts up. The display should work with the *lcd_test.py* program. If the *lcd_test.py* program still doesn't display anything then check that the wiring conforms to the *wiring list* on page 22. If you are using the Adafruit LCD plate the make sure that you are running the **ada_radio.py** program and not one of the other programs (See Table 1 on page 20). *select_daemon.sh* script to select the correct radio daemon.

MPD fails to install

During installation of MPD some files return a 404 error (Not found) the following message is seen.

```
Unable to fetch some archives, maybe run apt-get update or try with -fix-missing?
```

This is due to that an update was not previously carried out as shown in the section called *SD card creation* on page 38. Perform the update and upgrade as shown and re-install MPD and MPC.

Music Player Daemon won't start

The MPD daemon logs to the `/var/log/mpd/mpd.log` file. Examine this file for errors. The MPD daemon is dependant on good PLS files so check that these are correct as described in the section called *Creating and Maintaining Playlist* files on page 65.

The MPD may display a socket error

When starting the MPD daemon the following message is seen:

```
Starting Music Player Daemon: mpdlisten: bind to '[::1]:6600' failed: Failed to create socket: Address family not supported by protocol (continuing anyway, because binding to '127.0.0.1:6600' succeeded)
```

If this message is seen in the MPD log file this is simply because IP version 6 (IPv6) isn't installed so the message doesn't affect operation of the MPD.

To prevent it from happening configure the `bind_to_address` parameter in the `/etc/mpd.conf` file to "any". The installation procedure should normally set this anyhow.

ImportError: No module named mpd

The following message is seen when attempting to start the radio:

```
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "/home/pi/radio/ada_radio.py", line 33, in <module>
    from radio_class import Radio
  File "/home/pi/develop/pi/radio/radio_class.py", line 26, in <module>
    from mpd import MPDClient
ImportError: No module named mpd
```

This only happens from version 3.3 onwards which now uses the python-mpd library.

Run the following command:

```
apt-get python-mpd
```

Restart the radio program.

PLS files won't load using MPC

When attempting to load a PLS file (for example `ukblues.pls`) using the **mpc** client you see the following message:

```
$ mpc load ukblues.pls
Loading: ukblues.pls
Error: no such playlist
```

This is due to permissions on the files by not copying them to `/var/lib/mpd/playlists` directory using `sudo` or as root user. This can be seen by using the `'ls -la'` command to display the permissions.

```
pi@raspberrypi:~$ ls -la /var/lib/mpd/playlists/ukblues.pls
```

```
-rw-r----- 1 root root 105 Oct  5 10:44 /var/lib/mpd/playlists/ukblues.pls
```

The **-rw-r-----** string means the other users (including pi) cannot read this file. You may need to learn about file permissions if you don't already know. The problem can be solved by setting the permissions for "other" to read:

```
pi@p raspberrypi:~$ sudo chmod o+r /var/lib/mpd/playlists/*.pls
pi@ raspberrypi:~$ ls -la /var/lib/mpd/playlists/ukblues.pls
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 105 Oct  5 10:44 /var/lib/mpd/playlists/ukblues.pls
```

This should solve the problem as the **rw-r--r--** string means the other users (including pi) can read the file.

Cannot start the radio daemon with sudo

If the radio daemon only starts as user root; this is due to file permission problems with the files in the **/var/lib/radiod** directory. To correct it carry out the following instruction:

```
$ sudo chmod -R 766 /var/lib/radiod
```

The radio daemon should now start with sudo without further problem.

The MPD daemon complains about the avahi daemon

The following message is seen in the **/var/log/mpd/mpd.log** file

```
Apr 10 15:37 : avahi: Failed to create client: Daemon not running.
```

Change the *zeroconf_enabled* parameter in the **/etc/mpd.conf** file to "no". This is normally set in the radio package installation procedure.

The *avahi* daemon is used to configure systems without a network connection but is not enabled by default. It is not required for this design.

Buttons seem to be pressing themselves

The symptoms are that it looks like buttons are generating their own signals i.e. they appear to be continually pressed although they are not being operated. In particular the MENU button displays this problem. This is because the inputs are "floating". All inputs for the button operated radios (Not Adafruit plate) need to be pulled down to ground using a 10K resistor for version 1 boards. Newer version 2.0 boards have inbuilt pull-up/pull-down resistors. Version 2.0 onwards of the radio software enables the internal pull-down resistors so doesn't require external resistors. Use the very latest version of the software to eliminate this problem. Use the **test_switches.py** software to test the buttons.

Radio daemon doesn't start or hangs

This is almost certainly a problem with either the MPD daemon or failed internet connection."Check the network connection and run installation tests on the MPD daemon. Occasionally a bad PLS file can also cause this problem. You can check that your Raspberry PI has an internet connection with the *ip addr* command. The example below shows interface *eth0* connected as IP 192.168.2.22.

```
# ip addr
1: lo: <LOOPBACK,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 16436 qdisc noqueue state UNKNOWN
    link/loopback 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd 00:00:00:00:00:00
    inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
2: eth0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc pfifo_fast state
UP qlen 1000
    link/ether b8:27:eb:fc:46:15 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
    inet 192.168.2.22/24 brd 192.168.2.255 scope global eth0
```

Stream decode problems

The radio may display a message similar to the following:

```
ERROR: problems decoding http://173.244.194.212:8078
```

This is due to an invalid URL (In the above example this is <http://173.244.194.212:8078>) in one of the PLS files.

Locate the offending URL in the play list file in the **/var/lib/mpd/playlists** directory. Either correct the radio stream URL or remove it all together.

Also check that the file URL is not the pointer to the PLS file (See section Creating and Maintaining Playlist files on page 65).

Cannot mount remote network drive

There are just too many possibilities to cover all of these here. However a few common problems are covered here:

Error: mount error(115): Operation now in progress

Cause: Most likely an incorrect IP address

Error: NFS mount hangs

Cause: Most likely an incorrect IP address

Error: mount.nfs: access denied by server while mounting <ip address>:/music

Cause: The volume name is missing – for example /volume1/music

Error: mount error(16): Device or resource busy

Cause: The share mount directory is in use because a mount has already been done. Run the umount command.

Error: mount error(2): No such file or directory

Cause: The path specified in the mount doesn't exist

Error:

mount.nfs: rpc.statd is not running but is required for remote locking.

mount.nfs: Either use '-o nolock' to keep locks local, or start statd.

mount.nfs: an incorrect mount option was specified

Cause:

You need to include the “-o noclock” option.

If the error isn't in the above list then search the web for suggestions.

Button or Rotary encoder problems

Use the `test_switches.py` or `test_rotary_class.py` to test the push buttons or rotary encoders respectively.

Rotary switches not working

Check wiring in particular the common pin must be connected to ground (and not 3.3 volts). Run the `test_rotary_class.py` to test the switches.

If you see a message similar to the following then you are using the wrong GPIO libraries most likely because you haven't installed the correct version of Raspbian Wheezy on the SD card as shown on page 38:

```
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "test_rotary_class.py", line 38, in <module>
    volumeknob =
RotaryEncoder(LEFT_SWITCH,RIGHT_SWITCH,MUTE_SWITCH,callback)
  File "/home/pi/Projects/radio/rotary_class.py", line 39, in __init__
    GPIO.add_event_detect(self.pinA, GPIO.FALLING,
callback=self.switch_event)
AttributeError: 'module' object has no attribute 'add_event_detect'
```

Install the latest version of Raspbian Wheezy as shown on page 38.

If you are running an older version Raspbian Wheezy you can connect to the Internet and run the two following commands as user root.

```
# apt-get update
# apt-get upgrade
```

This can take some time. Reboot once the upgrade is finished.

Volume control not working with USB speakers

This is hardware dependant. Not all USB hardware and drivers work with mixer type "hardware". If this problem is being experienced try setting the **mixer_type** parameter to "software". Edit the `/etc/mpd.conf` file and change the mixer type to software.

```
mixer_type                "software"
```

Remove the # at the beginning of the line to enable software mixing and save the file. Restart the radio software.

Note: This solution was provided by one of the constructors and is untested by the author.

The message "Check playlists" is displayed

The message "Check playlists" is displayed on the LCD screen for certain radio stations. This will only be seen in versions 3.3 and 3.4. The reason is that certain radio stations are not including the station name in their stream. This is also why the web interface doesn't display a station name with these radio streams.

Upgrade to version 3.5 and above to cure this problem or complain to the radio station that is transmitting the stream without the name parameter.

Noisy interference on the radio

If there is noise interference when playing the radio and this is still present even when the radio is muted this can be for two reasons. This can happen with a wired Ethernet connection and a Wi-Fi dongle are connected to the Raspberry Pi and the Ethernet activity is being picked up by the Wi-Fi dongle. This can be cured by using either a wireless adapter or the Ethernet connection and not both.

Another less common cause can be an inadequate power supply. See Power supply considerations on page 25.

Music is first heard at boot time then stops and restarts

This only happens with earlier versions of the software and shouldn't happen with version 3.6 onwards. The reason that music is initially and then stops is because the MPD daemon is started at boot time and restarted when the radio software starts. To disable this behaviour use the following:

```
sudo update-rc.d mpd disable
```

This will stop MPD starting at boot time. Starting of the MPD daemon is completely controlled by the radio software. The radio package installation procedure now automatically disables the Music Player Daemon at boot time.

Note: At least one constructor has stated that the music is played at full volume shortly after boot time before returning to a normal level after the radio stations have been loaded.

USB device won't play

The `/var/log/mpd/mpd.log` file shows the following message:

```
<date> : mixer: Failed to set mixer for 'My ALSA Device': failed to set ALSA
volume: Invalid argument
```

This can happen with certain USB devices. The radio may start but stops almost immediately and displays the "Radio stopped" message on the LCD screen. The MPD daemon if run on its own plays OK but the volume can't be changed using the **mpc volume** command.

If problems are experienced with your USB device (Tenx Technology for example) then add the **mixer_type "software"** parameter to the `/etc/mpd.conf` file.

```
audio_output {
    type          "alsa"
    name          "My ALSA Device"
    device        "hw:0,0"          # optional
    format        "44100:16:2"      # optional
    mixer_device  "default"         # optional
    mixer_control "PCM"             # optional
    mixer_index   "0"               # optional
    mixer_type    "software"        # Add this line for some USB devices
}
```

Unexpected message during an upgrade

It is possible one of the files has been changed in a new package. For example:

```
Configuration file `/etc/logrotate.d/radiod'
==> Deleted (by you or by a script) since installation.
==> Package distributor has shipped an updated version.
What would you like to do about it ? Your options are:
  Y or I : install the package maintainer's version
  N or O : keep your currently-installed version
  D      : show the differences between the versions
  Z      : start a shell to examine the situation
The default action is to keep your current version.
*** radiod (Y/I/N/O/D/Z) [default=N] ? Y
Installing new version of config file /etc/logrotate.d/radiod ...
Executing post install script /var/lib/dpkg/info/radiod.postinst
update-rc.d: using dependency based boot sequencing
```

If you see this enter a Y to install the new file unless you have a good reason not to.

Missing logrotate or other configuration files

If upgrading or reinstalling the radiod package you must use the `--force-confmiss` flag.

```
$ sudo dpkg --install --force-confmiss radiod_4.7_armhf.deb
```

This will re-install any missing configuration files.

Using the diagnostic programs

A number of diagnostic programs are supplied to help troubleshoot problems or provide extra system information. These are:

- **lcd_test.py** Test the LCD screen (Directly wired to the GPIO)
- **test_ada_lcd.py** Test the Adafruit LCD plate and buttons
- **test_i2c_lcd.py** Test Adafruit LCD with I2C backpack
- **test_switches.py** Test push button switches (Directly wired to the GPIO)
- **test_rotary_class.py** Test rotary encoder switches (Directly wired to the GPIO)
- **display_model.py** Display Raspberry Pi model information
- **display_current.py** Display current station or track details

All diagnostic programs are supplied in the **/home/pi/radio** directory. Change to this directory first!

```
$ cd /home/pi/radio
```

All programs require the `./` characters in front of the name to execute. All of those using the GPIO interface also require to be called with **sudo**.

The test_lcd, test_i2c_lcd and test_ada_lcd programs

```
$ sudo ./test_lcd.py
```

The above program will display the following text on the LCD:

```
Bob Rathbone  
Line 2: abcdefghi
```

Line 2 scrolls the alphabet followed by 0 through 9.

The `test_ada_lcd.py` program does the same except it also prints a message on the console screen when a button is pressed.

The test_switches program

Test switches directly wired to the GPIO pins.

```
$ sudo ./test_switches.py  
down_switch  
up_switch  
right_switch  
left_switch  
menu_switch
```

Pressing the switches should show on the screen as shown in the above example.

The test_rotary_class.py program

This program does a simple test of the switches. It uses the `rotary_class.py` code.

```
$ sudo ./test_rotary_class.py  
Are you using an old revision 1 board y/n: n  
Use Ctrl-C to exit  
Volume anticlockwise 3  
Volume clockwise 1  
Volume button down 3  
Volume button up 4  
Tuner clockwise 1  
Tuner anticlockwise 3  
Tuner button down 3  
Tuner button up 4  
^C  
Exit
```

The remote_control program

The **remote control** program listens on the IR interface for commands from the Remote Control. The actual IR interface makes use of PiFace CAD software, see <http://piface.github.io/pifacecad/>.

The **remote_control** program is started from the **pifacercd** service. It then passes commands to the radio program. This was first done using so-called signals up to version 4.6 but was very limited as it could only change the sound, channels and menu display. From version 4.7 the **remote control** program now provides complete control of the radio and can change menu options, do searches etc. just as the same as the knobs or buttons. It normally communicates with the radio program using UDP port 5100 on the local network interface.

The display_model program

This program displays the Raspberry PI model details.

```
$ ./display_model.py  
000e: Model B, Revision 2.0, RAM: 512 MB, Maker: Sony
```

In this example 000e=Manufacturers revision, B=Model, 2.0=Revision, 512MB RAM, Maker=Sony.

If you are unsure of the model or revision of the Raspberry PI use this program to find this out.

The display_current program

This is a useful diagnostic that prints out the raw information available from the MPD daemon. The radio daemon uses the same libraries as this test program.

```
$ ./display_current.py

id: 32
pos: 7
name: Blues Radio UK
file: http://206.217.213.16:8430
title: 04 Billy Jones Blues - I'm A Bluesman
current_id 8

Status
songid: 32
playlistlength: 25
playlist: 31
repeat: 0
consume: 0
mixrampdb: 0.000000
random: 0
state: play
xfade: 0
volume: 75
single: 0
mixrampdelay: nan
nextsong: 8
time: 22:0
song: 7
elapsed: 22.400
bitrate: 96
nextsongid: 33
audio: 32000:24:2

uptime: 28
db_update: 1400354144
artists: 228
playtime: 23
albums: 132
db_playtime: 302046
songs: 1297
```

To find out the exact meaning of all these fields please refer to the standard python-mpd documentation at <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/python-mpd/> or <http://pythonhosted.org/python-mpd2/topics/getting-started.html> .

Configuring a wireless adaptor

You will almost certainly want to configure a wireless adaptor for the radio instead of a wired network connection. Choose a wireless adapter that has been approved for the Raspberry PI. See the following link for approved Raspberry PI peripherals: http://elinux.org/RPi_VerifiedPeripherals

Install the wireless adapter

Switch off the Raspberry PI and plug in the adaptor into one of the USB ports. Power the PI back on and log in. Check to see if your wireless adapter has been recognised by running the **lsusb** command.

```
pi@raspberrypi:~$ lsusb
Bus 001 Device 002: ID 0424:9512 Standard Microsystems Corp.
Bus 001 Device 001: ID 1d6b:0002 Linux Foundation 2.0 root hub
Bus 001 Device 003: ID 0424:ec00 Standard Microsystems Corp.
Bus 001 Device 004: ID 148f:5370 Ralink Technology, Corp. RT5370 Wireless
Adapter
```

The above shows a Ralink (Tenda) wireless adaptor but this will vary depending on the adapter that has been installed.

Configure the adaptor

The configuration is contained in the **/etc/network/interfaces** file as shown below

```
pi@raspberrypi:~$ cat /etc/network/interfaces
auto lo

iface lo inet loopback
iface eth0 inet dhcp

allow-hotplug wlan0
iface wlan0 inet manual
wpa-roam /etc/wpa_supplicant/wpa_supplicant.conf
iface default inet dhcp
```

You should not need to change this file unless you wish to configure a static IP address (See *Configuring a static IP address* on page 97). The file to be amended is shown on the line beginning with wpa-roam and is **/etc/wpa_supplicant/wpa_supplicant.conf**. Edit this file. It will only contain a couple of lines.

```
ctrl_interface=DIR=/var/run/wpa_supplicant GROUP=netdev
update_config=1
```

Add the following after the above lines:

```
network={
    ssid="YOUR_SSID"
    scan_ssid=1
    psk="YOUR_KEY"
    proto=RSN
    key_mgmt=WPA-PSK
    pairwise=CCMP
    auth_alg=OPEN
}
```

Substitute YOUR_SSID and YOUR_KEY with the actual SSID and key for your wireless router. The above configuration is for a router using WPA encryption. If your router is using the older WEP encryption then you will need to adapt the configuration to use WEP. See next section.

Explanation of the network fields

Field	Description
ssid	your WIFI (SSID) name
scan_ssid	A value of 1 means broadcast and value of 2 means a hidden SSID (Normally enter a value of 1)
psk	Your WIFI password
proto	Your choice of RSN or WPA. RSN is WP2 and WPA is WPA1. (most configurations are RSN)
key_mgmt	Either WPA-PSK or WPA-EAP (pre-shared or enterprise respectively)
pairwise	Either CCMP or TKIP (WPA2 or WPA1 respectively)
auth_alg	OPEN option is required for WPA and WPA2 (other option, SHARED & LEAP)

The only problem with the above configuration is that the **psk** key is in plain text and can be read by anyone who has access to the Raspberry PI. It is possible to increase security by generating a so-called passphrase with the **wpa_passphrase** command. For example if your **ssid** is *mywlan* and the WIFI password is *abcdef1234* then use the following command to generate the passphrase.

```
# wpa_passphrase mywlan abcdef1234
network={
    ssid="mywlan"
    #psk="abcdef1234"
    psk=53a566e0ccf03ec40b46e6ef4fc48b836e428fb0fd5e0df95187ba96e60ce7ce
}
```

Copy and paste the passphrase into the psk parameter into the **/etc/wpa_supplicant/wpa_supplicant.conf** file. Do not include any quotes around it.

Operating the wireless interface

If configured correctly the wireless adapter will start up when the Raspberry PI is rebooted.

The adaptor can be started and stopped with the following commands:

```
root@raspberrypi:/home/pi# ifup wlan0
```

and

```
root@raspberrypi:/home/pi# ifdown wlan0
```

To see what **SSIDs** are available run the **iwlist** command as shown in the following example:

```
root@raspberrypi:/home/pi# iwlist wlan0 scanning | grep ESSID
ESSID:"mywlan"
ESSID:"VGV751926F4B9"
ESSID:"prime"
ESSID:"Sitecom6A212C"
```

Troubleshooting the wireless adapter

Problem – Starting the wireless adapter gives the following message:

```
# ifup wlan0
wpa_supplicant: /sbin/wpa_supplicant daemon failed to start
run-parts: /etc/network/if-pre-up.d/wpa_supplicant exited with return code 1
Failed to connect to wpa_supplicant - wpa_ctrl_open: No such file or
directory
wpa_supplicant: /sbin/wpa_cli daemon failed to start
run-parts: /etc/network/if-up.d/wpa_supplicant exited with return code 1
```

This is due to an incorrect `/etc/wpa_supplicant/wpa_supplicant.conf` file. The problem is due to an incorrect configuration. For example a space after the `ssid=` directive as shown below.

```
network={
    ssid= "homelan"
    scan_ssid=1
    psk="d762c954df"
    proto=RSN
    key_mgmt=WPA-PSK
    pairwise=CCMP
    auth_alg=OPEN
}
```

Solution: Correct the error and run the `ifup wlan0` command.

Problem: The following is seen:

```
root@raspberrypi:/home/pi# ifup wlan0
ifup: interface wlan0 already configured
```

Solution: This isn't actually an error. Just run the `ifdown wlan0` command and retry the `ifup wlan0` command. It should then work.

Configuring a static IP address

The Raspberry Pi Ethernet network interface comes configured out of the box to use DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol) when using Raspian Wheezy or a similar operating system. This means it is given an IP address by the (home) router for a particular lease period. This also means that if the Raspberry Pi is switched off for any length of time it may get a different IP address from the one it had previously. This may not be very convenient especially if you are using the web interface or a mobile app to control the radio. There are two possible choices here:

1. Configure the home router so that DHCP delivers a fixed address based upon the Raspberry Pi's MAC address. This is called DHCP IP address reservation.
2. Configure the Raspberry Pi with a static IP address.

It is beyond the scope of this manual to show how to reserve DHCP IP addresses and will vary anyway between routers. Also it isn't always possible configure the router. Take a look at the following link for a good example of how to do this: <http://lifehacker.com/5822605/how-to-set-up-dhcp-reservations-so-you-never-have-to-check-an-ip-address-again>

Alternatively search the internet with the name of your router and the term "DHCP IP address reservation".

If DHCP IP address reservation isn't an option then it is possible to configure a so-called static IP address which will not change between reboots. To do this you must find out the IP address of your router (gateway) and netmask for your network. Do this with the **netstat** command as shown below:

```
$ netstat -r -n
Kernel IP routing table
Destination      Gateway          Genmask         Flags   MSS Window  irtt  Iface
0.0.0.0          192.168.1.254   0.0.0.0         UG        0  0        0    eth0
192.168.1.0      0.0.0.0         255.255.255.0   U        0  0        0    eth0
```

In the above example the IP address of the gateway is 192.168.1.254. Your router's IP address will almost certainly be different. Take a note of the gateway IP address and the subnet (Genmask) of your network. In this case that is 255.255.255.0. You will need to use these values to configure the interface. The next thing you need is a free IP address in your network. There will be lots of them but approximately 50 to 100 of them will be claimed for the DHCP pool. The only way to now what DHCP is using is to log into your router and look at the configuration. If this isn't possible or you are unsure of what to do then pick one somewhere in the middle of the network range. For example in the above network you could choose 192.168.1.125. Check that it isn't already in use somewhere else in your network. Check it with the **ping** command. If you see 100% packet loss then the IP address you have chosen isn't in use in your system so you can use it.

```
$ ping -c 4 192.168.1.125
PING 192.168.1.125 (192.168.1.125) 56(84) bytes of data.
From 192.168.1.8 icmp_seq=1 Destination Host Unreachable
From 192.168.1.8 icmp_seq=2 Destination Host Unreachable
From 192.168.1.8 icmp_seq=3 Destination Host Unreachable
From 192.168.1.8 icmp_seq=4 Destination Host Unreachable

--- 192.168.1.125 ping statistics ---
4 packets transmitted, 0 received, +4 errors, 100% packet loss, time 3012ms
```

Now edit the **/etc/network/interfaces** file and comment out the existing line for the eth0 interface configuration (dhcp) and add a new definition under it as shown in the following examples:

Ethernet static IP configuration

For a wired Ethernet connection use a configuration as shown below using your new static IP address.

```
iface lo inet loopback
#iface eth0 inet dhcp
iface eth0 inet static
    address 192.168.1.125
    netmask 255.255.255.0
    gateway 192.168.1.254
```

Save the file and reboot the system. After reboot log into the Raspberry PI using the new IP address. If unable to log in connect a keyboard and screen and reboot. Log in and troubleshoot the problem.

Wireless LAN static IP configuration

Likewise it is possible to configure the wireless LAN with a static IP, but with one important difference in that **WPArouting** no longer makes sense and must be disabled by commenting it out.

Configure the **wpa-ssid** and **wpa-psk** parameters for your network in the **/etc/network/interfaces** file instead of the **/etc/wpa_supplicant/wpa_supplicant.conf** file.

```
#iface default inet dhcp
auto wlan0
allow-hotplug wlan0
iface wlan0 inet static
    address 192.168.1.126
    netmask 255.255.255.0
    broadcast 192.168.1.255
#wpa-roam /etc/wpa_supplicant/wpa_supplicant.conf
wpa-ssid "<Your-SSID>"
wpa-psk "<Your-Passphrase>"
```

To display the IP address of the Wireless Adapter run the **ip addr** command:

```
# ip addr
1: lo: <LOOPBACK,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 16436 qdisc noqueue state UNKNOWN
    link/loopback 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd 00:00:00:00:00:00
    inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
2: eth0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc pfifo_fast state UP qlen 1000
    link/ether b8:27:eb:fc:46:15 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
    inet 192.168.1.126/24 brd 192.168.2.255 scope global eth0
3: wlan0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc mq state UP qlen 1000
    link/ether c8:3a:35:c8:64:cd brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
    inet 192.168.1.126/24 brd 192.168.2.255 scope global wlan0
```

The above command also displays the MAC address of the Ethernet and WiFi connections. For example: **c8:3a:35:c8:64:cd**

You will need this information if you wish to do DHCP IP address reservation as mentioned previously in this section.

Streaming to other devices using Icecast2

Inbuilt MPD HTTP streamer

The MPD can be configured to use its own inbuilt streamer. However this requires a special MPD client such as **gmmpc** on the PC. It cannot be easily accessed from a web browser. If you wish to use the inbuilt streamer see the following URL:

http://mpd.wikia.com/wiki/Built-in_HTTP_streaming_part_2

Introduction to Icecast

You may wish to play the output of the Radio through your PC speakers or a mobile device such as a tablet or telephone. This is possible to do this using **Icecast**. For more information on Icecast see the following Wikipedia article: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Icecast> .

Please also refer to *Intellectual Property, Copyright, and Streaming Media* on page 114.

Installing Icecast

Install **icecast2** using the **install_streaming.sh** script as user root user.

```
$ cd /home/pi/radio
$ sudo bash
# ./install_streaming.sh
Starting Icecast2 integration with the Music Player Daemon
The Icecast2 installation program will ask if you wish to configure
Icecast2.
Answer 'yes' to this. Configure Icecast as follows:
Icecast2 hostname: localhost
Icecast2 source password: mympd
Icecast2 relay password: mympd
Icecast2 administration password: mympd
Continue y/n: y
```

Enter 'y' to continue:

The Icecast2 installation program will ask if you wish to configure Icecast2.

Answer '**yes**' to this. Configure Icecast as follows:

```
Icecast2 hostname: localhost
Icecast2 source password: mympd
Icecast2 relay password: mympd
Icecast2 administration password: mympd
```

It is important that you replace the default password 'hackme' with 'mympd' and that you leave the Icecast2 hostname as 'localhost'. The installation program continues configuration. The icecast2 server will be started:

```
Done Configuring icecast2..
insserv: warning: script 'ggpiod' missing LSB tags and overrides
Starting icecast2: Starting icecast2
Detaching from the console
icecast2.
```

Ignore the **insserv** warning message.

Check that the PI Radio stream is enabled

```
# mpc outputs
Output 1 (My ALSA Device) is enabled
Output 2 (PI Radio MPD Stream) is enabled
```

Check that MPD has established a connection with the icecast2 server

```
# netstat -tn | grep :8000
tcp        0      0 127.0.0.1:8000    127.0.0.1:38639  ESTABLISHED
tcp        0      0 127.0.0.1:38639  127.0.0.1:8000   ESTABLISHED
```

This completes the installation of Icecast2 however you may need to configure the clock speed.

Overclocking the Raspberry PI

It will almost certainly be necessary to over-clock the Raspberry PI to handle Icecast2 streaming using the **raspi-config** program. Medium over-clocking seems to be sufficient.

Run **raspi-config**. Select option 7 'Overclock'. The following screen will be displayed.

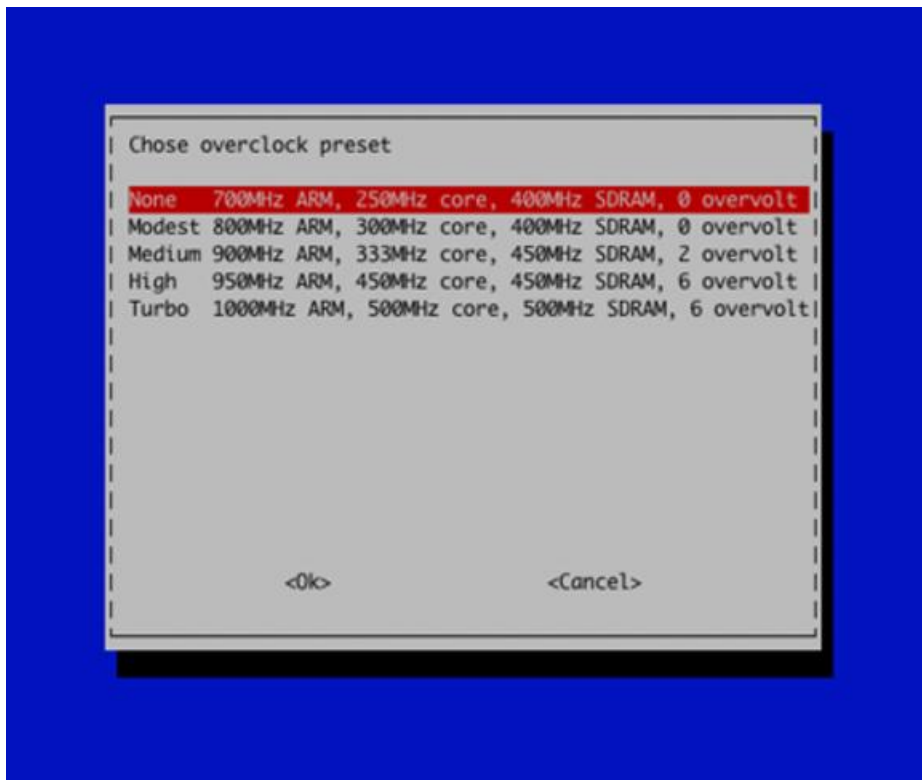


Figure 58 Over-clocking the Raspberry PI

Select 'Medium' to start with. Reboot the Raspberry PI when prompted.

Re-test the radio with streaming switched on.

Icecast2 Operation

The radiod daemon has full control over the Icecast2 service and stops and starts it as required. When the radio is first switched on the Icecast2 streaming service will not normally be enabled unless it was enabled as shown below by an earlier run of the radio software.

Switching on streaming

Before you can listen to the streaming on the PC or mobile device it is necessary to start the Icecast2 streaming daemon. It must be switched on first.

Use the options menu (Press menu button three times). Step through the menu option using the Channel up/down buttons until **“Streaming off”** is displayed in the LCD display (assuming Icecast is installed). Press either Volume button and after a short delay the text should change to **“Streaming on”** in the LCD display. Press the menu button again to exit the options menu.

This starts the Icecast2 service. It also writes the word **“on”** or **“off”** to a file called **/var/lib/radiod/streaming**. This file is used to enable or disable the Icecast streaming function at boot time.

Starting Icecast2 manually

Use the following command:

```
$ sudo service icecast2 start
```

To stop it again:

```
$ sudo service icecast2 stop
```

Enabling Icecast2 at reboot time

It isn't necessary to enable the Icecast2 service at boot time as the radio program will start it depending on the contents of the **/var/lib/radiod/streaming** file. Should you wish to enable streaming at boot time then enable it with the following command:

```
$ sudo update-rc.d icecast2 enable
```

Playing the Icecast stream on a Windows 7

To play the Icecast2 radio stream on a PC point your web browser at the IP address of the radio on port 8000. In the following example the IP address of the radio is 192.168.2.11. So this would be:

http://192.168.2.11:8000

The following screen should be displayed. If not continue to the troubleshooting guide at the end of this chapter:

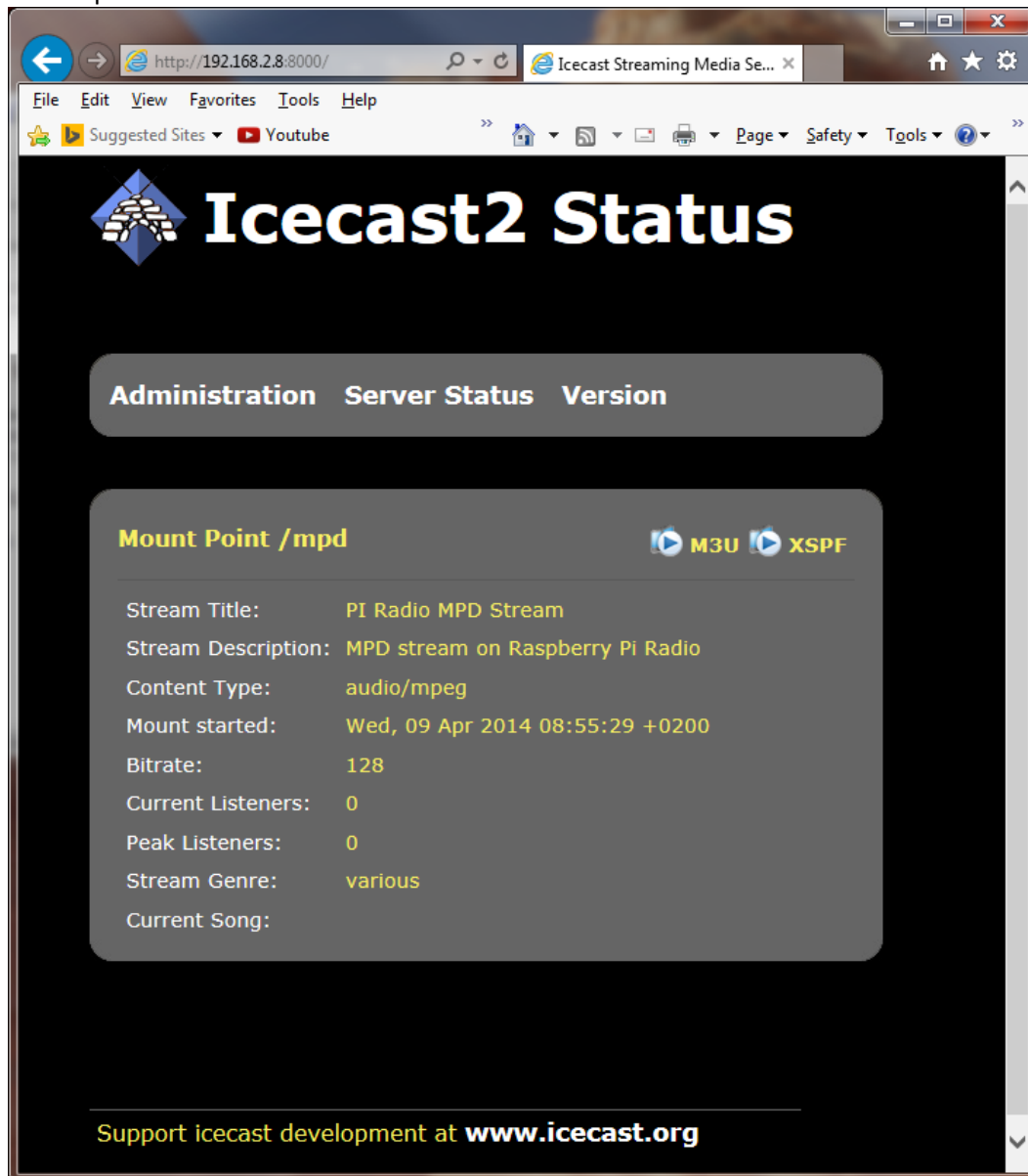


Figure 59 Icecast2 Status

Click on the **M3U** link to play the stream. This will launch your configured music player (For Windows PCs this is normally Windows Media Player).

Playing the Icecast stream on a Windows 10

The default player TWINUI does not appear to be able to find the M3U radio stream. Install Firefox Browser from <https://www.mozilla.org> and run the IP address of the radio on port 8000. The following is displayed. Click on **M3U**.

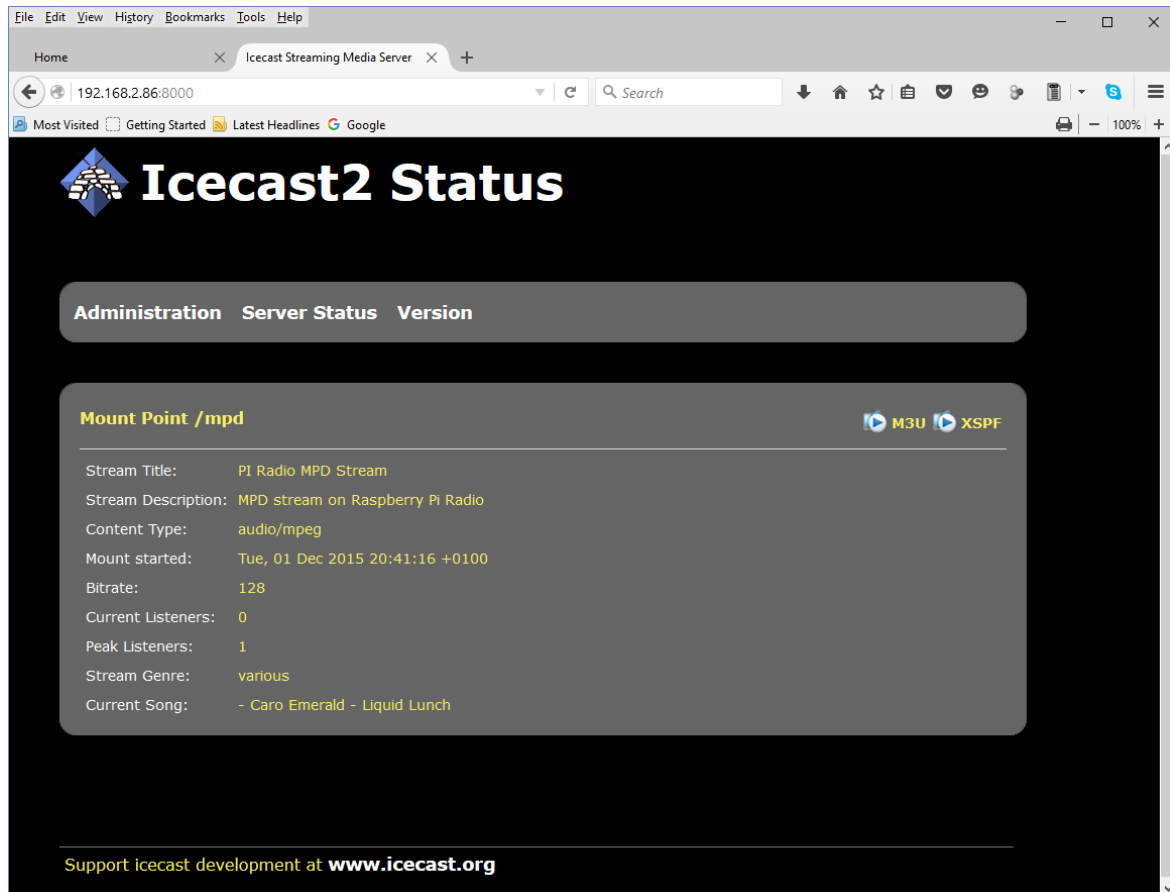
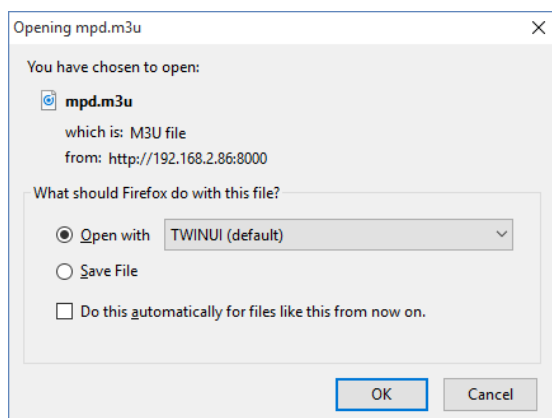


Figure 60 Streaming in the Firefox Web Browser

The following is displayed:



Change it to always open Windows media player:

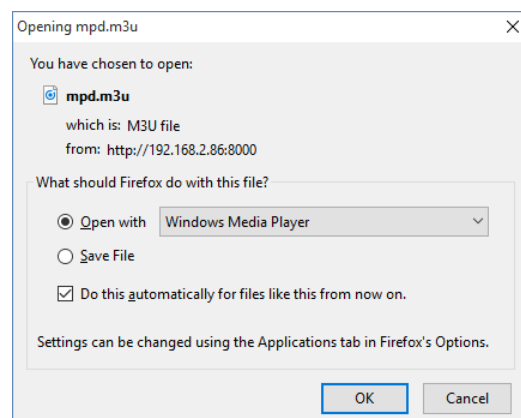


Figure 61 Selecting Windows Media Player

Press OK to continue. **Note:** It is probably possible to configure Windows 10 Edge or Internet Explorer 11 to use Windows Media player instead of TWINUI.

The selected radio station or music track should be heard through the PC speakers.



Figure 62 Windows media player

At this point you may wish to mute the sound from the radio itself. Simply reduce the volume to almost zero. Note: If the mute function is used it will stop the Icecast stream.

Playing the Icecast2 stream on an Apple iPad

This is exactly the same as playing the Icecast2 stream on a Windows PC.

1. Open the Safari browser.
2. Type in the Icecast2 URL. For example **http://192.168.2.11:8000**
3. Click the M3U button

This should open the iTunes Player and after a short time should start playing the radio stream.

Playing the Icecast2 stream on an Android device

1. Open your web browser
2. Type in the Icecast2 URL. For example **http://192.168.2.11:8000/mpd** (don't include .m3u)
3. When asked to "Complete action with" select your *Android System* then *Music player*

The Icecast stream should start playing. It is important not to key in **mpd.m3u** at the end of the URL. It must be **mpd** only.

Visual streaming indicator

When streaming is switched on an asterix '*' character is displayed as a visual streaming indicator in the LCD display on the Raspberry PI radio. When the '*' character is displayed this indicates that the Icecast2 streaming is switched on.

For the four line 20 character display the visual indicator is displayed after the time on the first line.

09:26 02/05/2014 *

For the two line by 16 character display there isn't the room to do this so it is displayed after the Volume or Mute message on the second line.

Volume 75 * or Sound muted *

Administration mode

In the "Icecast Status" screen there is an Administration tab. Click on the Administration tab. The following screen will be displayed. Enter username 'admin' and the password 'mympd'.



Figure 63 Icecast admin login

The icecast2 administration page will be displayed.

It has two parts. The Global Server statistics and mount point information.

See next page:

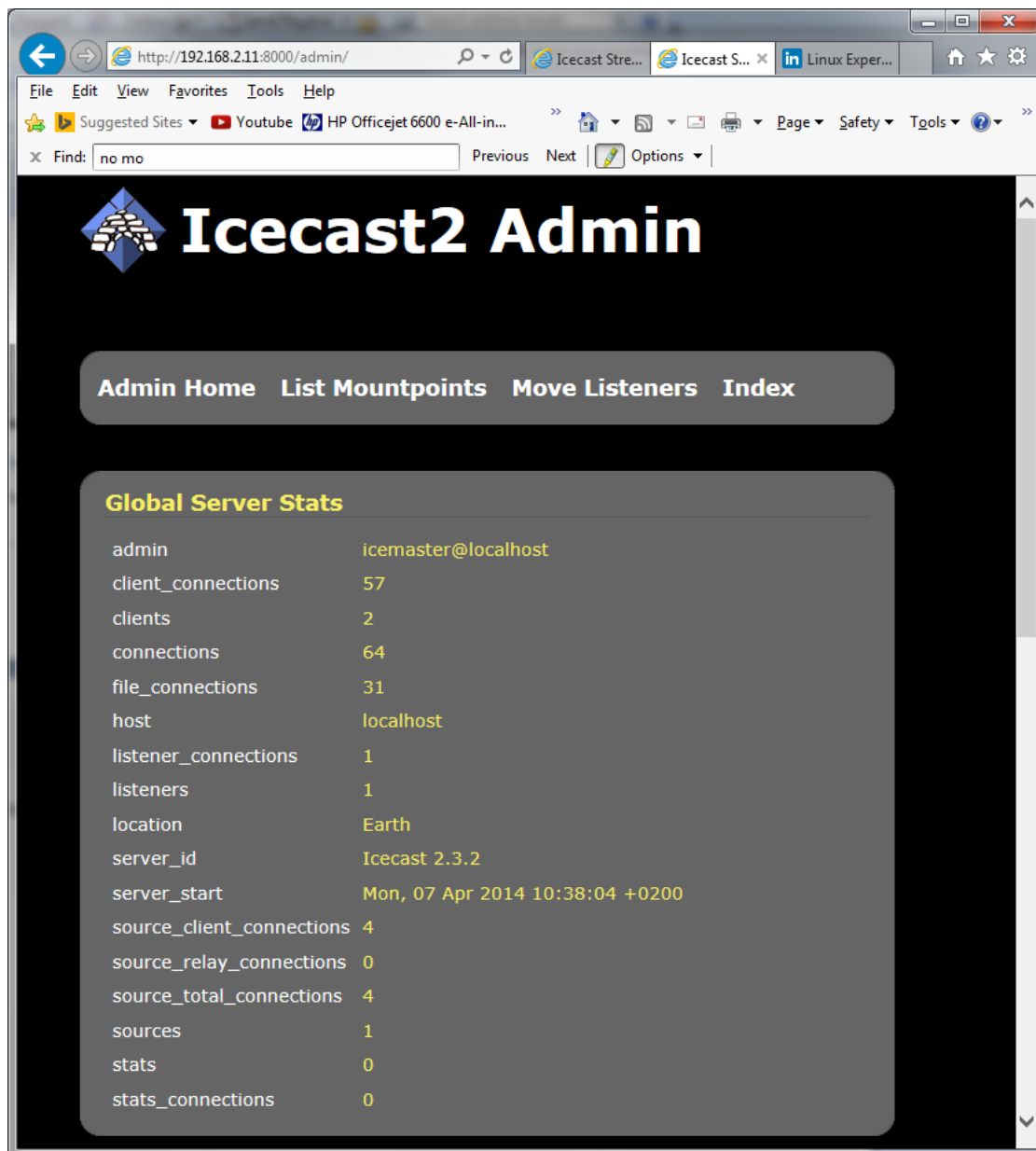


Figure 64 Icecast Global Server Status

It is beyond the scope of this manual to describe **Icecast2** administration. See the following site for further support. That said you should not normally need to change anything.

<http://www.icecast.org/>

The above site contains latest software updates, information, documentation and support forums.

Shown below is the second part (scroll down to display). This will display the **/mpd** mount point information and the currently playing track. This screen isn't automatically refreshed so you will need to refresh it if you want to display the name of any new track or station.



Figure 65 Icecast2 Mount point information

Troubleshooting Icecast2

Help for general problems with icecast2 can be found on the forums at <http://www.icecast.org/>

Icecast2 has two log files in the `/var/log/icecast2` directory namely **access.log** and **error.log**. The error log may give a clue as to the problem.

Below is a simulated error caused by mis-configuring the shoutcast entry in `/etc/mpd.conf` file. Here the hostname 'piradio' has been configured in the `/etc/mpd.conf` shoutcast entry instead of 'localhost'.

```
$ tail -f /var/log/mpd/mpd.log
Apr 07 10:43 : output: Failed to open "PI Radio MPD Stream" [shout]: problem
opening connection to shout server piradio:8000: Couldn't connect
```

Problem - Icecast streaming page says it can't be displayed.

Possible causes:

- The icecast service is not running on the radio.
 - Start it either from the Radio options menu (Streaming on) or run **sudo service icecast2 start** on the Raspberry PI and retry.
- Incorrect IP address or missing port number in the URL.
 - See *Icecast2 Operation* on page 102

Problem – No Mount Point displayed

Possible causes:

- This is mostly due to a mis-match in the MPD configuration and the Icecast2 configuration.
 - The icecast configuration file is `/etc/icecast2/icecast.xml`. Make sure that all of the passwords are set to 'mympd'. The password 'hackme' will not work.
- There is no `/mpd` directory or the permissions are incorrect.
 - Check that the `/mpd` directory exists and that the permissions are set to 777. See *Installing Icecast* on page 100.

Problem - Cannot play the stream on my Android device

There are a number of Icecast players which can be downloaded onto Android and play Icecast2 streams across the network without problem. However the usual Android System Music player should work. The most likely cause of this problem is keying in an incorrect URL (Maybe adding .m3u to the end). See *Playing the Icecast2 stream on an Android device* on page 105.

Problem – Music keeps stopping or is intermittent

This is difficult to give a definitive answer to this problem. It must be remembered that running MPD and Icecast2 together on a Raspberry PI is pushing the Raspberry PI to its limits. It can also depend on your network or the PC you are using. Personal experience showed no problem playing a stream on PC with a wired network connection however a Laptop connected over a wireless network did not work well. Trying to play two or more devices on the MPD/Icast2 stream is also likely to result in poor results.

Try over-clocking the Raspberry PI using the **raspi-config** program. Medium over-clocking seems to be sufficient. See *Overclocking the Raspberry PI* on page 101. The icecast streaming facility is a fun thing to try out but if it doesn't work properly or is causing you stress; switch the streaming facility off.

Controlling the Music Player daemon from Mobile devices

Android devices

There are a number of Android Apps capable controlling the Music Player Daemon from an Android such as a smart-phone or tablet. One of the most popular seems to be **MPDroid**. See the following link:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.namelessdev.mpdroid>

MPDroid allows you to control a MPD server (Music Player Daemon) and stream from it. It is a fork from an earlier program called **Pmix** and adds various new features and streaming support. The radio daemon is completely integrated with MPD clients such as **mpc** and **MPDdroid** as from version 3.7 onwards.

Load the MPDroid App use the Google Play Store on your device. Go to the settings menu and select **WLAN based connection**. Select **Host** and fill in the IP address of the radio and press OK. Set up the **Streaming url suffix** to **mpd.mp3**. All other settings can be left at their defaults.

Keep pressing the back button to exit and then re-start the MPDroid App. The play screen should be displayed as shown below. Volume, pause, fast forward/back can all be controlled from this screen.

To switch to the play list drag the play screen to the left. The current station list or play list will be displayed. Tap on the desired station or track to play it. Drag the play screen to the right to return to the play screen.

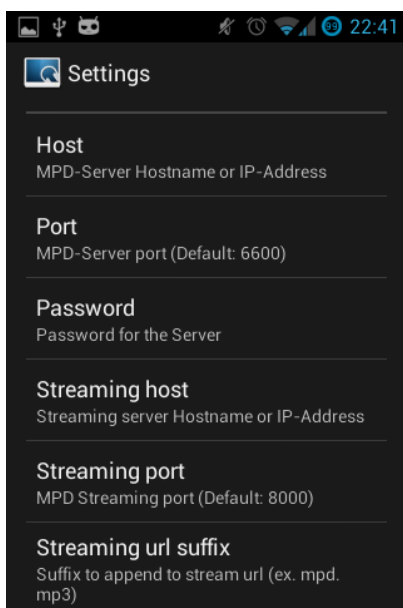


Figure 66 MPDroid set-up screen

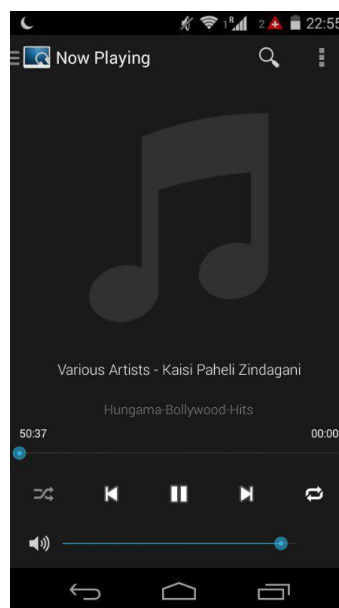


Figure 67 MPDroid play screen

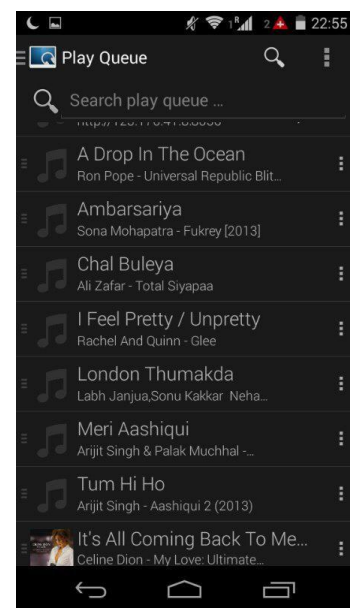


Figure 68 MPDroid play queue

Note: MPDroid is third party software and no support can be provided by bobrathbone.com.

Apple devices

As the author doesn't have an iPhone or iPad not much help can be offered here however try the **mPod – MPD Remote Control Software** at following link: <http://antipodesaudio.com/mpd.html> .

Note: mPod is third party software and no support can be provided by bobrathbone.com.

Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

What is the login name and password?

The default login name is: pi

The default password is: raspberry

Why are the radio stations not in the order that they were defined?

Playlists are loaded by the radio daemon in alphabetic order using the playlist name.

When loading an individual playlist, MPD loads the stations in the order that they are defined in each individual playlist. This has been improved in version 4.1 onwards by sorting the playlist.

It helps greatly to group stations of the same type into a single playlist. For example group all BBC radio stations into a single playlist.

The only way to get all of the radio stations in the order that you define them is to define a single playlist, for example **myplaylist**:

```
(myplaylist)
#
# United Kingdom
[BBC Radio 1] http://bbc.co.uk/radio/listen/live/r1.asx
[BBC Radio 2] http://bbc.co.uk/radio/listen/live/r2.asx
[BBC Radio 3] http://bbc.co.uk/radio/listen/live/r3.asx
:
:
[RAIradio3] http://www.listenlive.eu/rai3.m3u
```

This will produce a single playlist called **myplaylist.pls** with the stations loading in the order that they have been defined in the **/var/lib/radiod/stationlist** file. Make sure there are no blank lines between station definitions otherwise this terminates the playlist. All remaining stations will end up in there own single playlist file.

Why are some station names not being displayed in the web interface?

The reason for this is that some stations don't send the name with the stream. If you run the **mpc playlists** command you will see that some radio stations shows only the station URL and not the name:

```
$ mpc playlist
RAIradio2
:
BBC Radio 4 extra
http://icestreaming.rai.it/1.mp3
BBC Radio 3
BBC Radio 6
BBC Radio 5 live
```

The only way around this is to complain directly to the radio station to ask them to amend their stream to include the station name and title details. The only way reason that the station name is seen with the radio program is that it picks up the names out of the station list file.

The snooply web interface can't do this however.

Why doesn't the web interface display URLs until a station is selected?

When the Snoopy web interface is loaded it loads the playlists found in the `/var/lib/mpd/playlists/` directory. Snoopy displays the URLs but doesn't appear to use any titles defined in the playlists. It only displays the radio station information (if present) once it starts streaming from a particular radio station. Snoopy is third party software over which this author has no control.

Why are music tracks played randomly when loaded?

This is the default behaviour when the music library is loaded.
Random defaults to "off" when selecting the radio and to "on" when the music library is selected. This can be changed in the selection menu by selecting "Random off" after loading the music. However when the radio is restarted it will return to the default behaviour.

Why not display volume as blocks instead of Volume nn?

This is a design choice. Volume is displayed as "Volume *nn*" where *nn* is 1 to 100. The reason the volume is not displayed as blocks is resolution. There are only 16 or 20 blocks available depending upon the display being used. This means worse case the volume would need to change by at least 7 before any visual clue would be given by a block display. Also the line on which the volume is displayed is also used to display timer and alarm functions and will further reduce the amount of blocks available even further.

Why do I see a row of minus signs on line 3 of a four line display?

You may see something similar to below:

```
12:01 30/8/2014
BBC Radio 1 (13)
-----
Volume 75
```

This will only be seen in version 3.11 to 3.33 of the software. The minus signs are displayed as the radio station is not transmitting any title information (See also *The display_current program* on page 83). Previous versions displayed the following:

```
12:01 30/8/2014
Radio station 13
BBC Radio 1
Volume 75
```

The station name and play title were displayed together on the third line and the station number on the second line. From 3.11 onwards of the software the station name and play title (if transmitted) are displayed on the second and third line respectively.

```
12:01 30/08/2014
WPJR Country (6)
Lonestar - Mr. Mom
Volume 75
```

The station number is now displayed in brackets after the station name. Both lines scroll alternately if the station name or title is too big to display within the 20 character line.

Why do I see a station number on line 3

For version 3.3 onwards if no song information is available then the station playlist number followed by the stream speed. This is instead of the row of minus signs described in the previous section. In the following example Radio 1 is not transmitting any song information. It is number 37 in the playlist. The speed from the stream is 96 Kilobit. The displayed stream speed can also continuously change for some radio stations where the stream speed is variable.

```
12:01 23/08/2015
Radio1
Station 37 96K
Volume 75
```

Is it possible to change the date format?

Yes. Please see the section called *Changing the date format* on page 54.

Is there a pause & resume function

Yes but it is called mute and un-mute. The mute function also pauses the MPD player.

See the Mute function on page 60.

Why do I see a different station name from the one in the playlist

The station information displayed comes from the stream itself. The name entered in the playlist definition is only used in the search function. This was a design decision because the station information is only available once a particular radio station is selected so only the playlist name can be initially used. If the station transmits the station title this is used instead.

Run the **display_current.py** program to see all the information that comes from the stream (It is quite interesting).

What Rotary Encoder can I use for this project

The rotary encoders illustrated in this guide are COM-09117 12-step rotary encoders from sparkfun.com.

The radio uses so called "Incremental Rotary Encoder". An incremental rotary encoder provides cyclical outputs (only) when the encoder is rotated. The other type is an absolute rotary encoder and maintains position information even when switched off (See Wikipedia article and my tutorial on rotary encoders).

The cheaper smaller rotary encoders are usually incremental encoders. Absolute rotary encoders are usually bigger and more expensive as they house more electronics.

If unfortunately the seller doesn't provide a specification then there is a small risk that they may not run with this software.

Note: Not all manufacturers' rotary encoders will work with this project. If they work then fine if not regrettably you will need to purchase the recommended rotary encoders. You can also try the alternative rotary class which may just work with your encoders. See *The alternative Rotary class* on page 82.

Licences

The software and documentation for this project is released under the GNU General Public Licence.

The GNU General Public License (GNU GPL or GPL) is the most widely used free software license, which guarantees end users (individuals, organizations, companies) the freedoms to use, study, share (copy), and modify the software. Software that ensures that these rights are retained is called free software. The license was originally written by Richard Stallman of the Free Software Foundation (FSF) for the GNU project.

The GPL grants the recipients of a computer program the rights of the Free Software Definition and uses *copyleft* to ensure the freedoms are preserved whenever the work is distributed, even when the work is changed or added to. The GPL is a *copyleft* license, which means that derived works can only be distributed under the same license terms. This is in distinction to permissive free software licenses, of which the BSD licenses are the standard examples. GPL was the first *copyleft* license for general use.

See <http://www.gnu.org/licenses/#GPL> for further information on the GNU General Public License.

Intellectual Property, Copyright, and Streaming Media

This is an unbelievably complex subject. The author is not a lawyer and can not offer any legal advice on this subject. If you decide to stream your music content or relay a radio station stream back out to the internet or within a public building then you should seek legal advice.

See also: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Copyright_aspects_of_downloading_and_streaming

In general Radio stations are providing a stream to promote their radio station. As media providers they should have arrangements in place to make the content that they provide is legally streamed across the Internet but not all do. The question is it legal to listen (or view) such content is a complex one and subject to local and international laws and which vary considerably.

If you implement **Icecast** or any other streaming technology to re-stream content within your own home then provided that this is not streamed back out to the Internet or public location then one would think that you will not encounter any problems (but you never know).

If you stream music tracks or relay radio stations back out onto the internet or public space then almost certainly you will be infringing a copyright law or intellectual property rights somewhere. The penalties for such an infringement can be severe.

WARNING: YOU USE THE ICECAST STREAMING IN THIS PROJECT AT YOUR OWN RISK ESPECIALLY IF YOU MAKE THE STREAM CONTENT AVAILABLE ACROSS THE INTERNET OR PUBLIC SPACE, EVEN IF YOU ARE JUST RELAYING AN EXISTING MEDIA STREAM, LEGAL OR OTHERWISE.

Also see the Disclaimer on page 115.

Disclaimer

THIS SOFTWARE AND DOCUMENTATION IS PROVIDED BY THE COPYRIGHT HOLDERS AND CONTRIBUTORS 'AS IS' AND ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE ARE DISCLAIMED. IN NO EVENT SHALL THE COPYRIGHT OWNER OR CONTRIBUTORS BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, EXEMPLARY, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PROCUREMENT OF SUBSTITUTE GOODS OR SERVICES; LOSS OF USE, DATA, OR PROFITS; OR BUSINESS INTERRUPTION) HOWEVER CAUSED AND ON ANY THEORY OF LIABILITY, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, STRICT LIABILITY, OR TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE) ARISING IN ANY WAY OUT OF THE USE OF THIS SOFTWARE OR DOCUMENTATION, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGE.

Technical support

Technical support is on a voluntary basis by e-mail only at bob@bobrathbone.com. Before asking for support, please first consult the troubleshooting section on page 86. I will always respond to e-mails requesting help and will never ignore them. I only ask that you do the same (i.e. Did my suggestions help or not?). Be sure to provide the following information:

- What have you built (Adafruit or normal LCD variants)?
- Which program and version are you running?
- A clear description of the fault.
- What you have already done to locate the problem?
- Is anything displayed on the LCD?
- Did you run the test programs?
- Switch on DEBUG logging as described on page 60, run the program and include the log file.
- Did you vary from the procedure in the manual or add any other software?
- Include the `/var/log/radio.log` file (if relevant) with the email.

Please note that support for general Raspberry PI problems is not provided. Only issues relating to the Radio software will be investigated.

For general Raspberry PI support see the following site:

<http://www.raspberrypi.org/forums/>

For support on Music Player Daemon issues see the help pages at the following link:

<http://www.musicpd.org/>

For issues relating to Icecast2 streaming see:

<http://www.icecast.org>

For those of you who want to amend the code to suit your own requirements please note: I am very happy to help people with their projects but my time is limited so I ask that you respect that. Please also appreciate that I cannot engage in long email conversations with every constructor to debug their code or teach them Python.

Acknowledgements

My thanks to [Matt Hawkins](#) for the original LCD screen driver routines. It made the job of writing the *lcd_class.py* much easier.

Patrick Zacharias for his excellent work to implement the PiFace radio class.

The original instructions on how to use Rotary Encoders came from an excellent article by [Guy Carpenter](#). See:

<http://guy.carpenter.id.au/gaugette/2013/01/14/rotary-encoder-library-for-the-raspberry-pi/>
His ideas were used in the *rotary_class.py* code.

To Adafruit Industries for their excellent LCD plate and I2C code. See <http://www.adafruit.com>.

To PiFace for their PiFace CAD and IR software. See <http://www.piface.org.uk>

To Steffen Müller for his article on Streaming audio with MPD and Icecast2 on Raspberry Pi.
See <http://www.t3node.com/blog/streaming-audio-with-mpd-and-icecast2-on-raspberry-pi/>

To contributors such as Alan Broad who supplied photos of the Lego example of the radio plus code contribution. Also to Mike Whittaker for his contribution on how to drive the USB speaker set. To other contributors such as James Rydell for his excellent implementation using an old Zenith radio.

Thanks to Michael Uhlmann for the work he did testing various Android Apps for MPD. Also Simon O’Niel who carried out configuration and testing of Cmedia sound dongle.

To Open Electronics Magazine for their excellent article on the Raspberry PI radio using the Adafruit LCD plate. See <http://www.open-electronics.org/internet-radio-with-raspberry-pi/>

To Joaquin Perez, Broadcast Engineer, Leeds for the backlight dimmer and circuit diagram.

To Luboš Ruckl for his work on the Rotary switch class (adapted from code by Ben Buxton) and the pcf8475 LCD class (adapted from code by unknown author but believed to be from the Aduino community).

To all constructors of this project who have sent in photos of their radio’s and their ideas for improvement and the many appreciative e-mails that I have received from them.

Glossary

AAC	Advanced Audio Coding
ASX	Advanced Stream Redirector
CGI	Common Gate Interface – Executable Server Side scripts
CAD	Control and Display (PiFace)
CIFS	Common Internet File System
DHCP	Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol
EMI	Electromagnetic Interference (For example fluorescent lighting etc.)
GPIO	General Purpose IO (On the Raspberry PI)
I2C	Industry standard serial interface (Philips) using data and clock signals
IPv4	Internet Protocol Version 4
IPv6	Internet Protocol Version 6
IR	Infra Red (sensor) for use with infra red devices such as remote controls
LCD	Liquid Crystal Display
LIRC	Linux Remote Control software
M3U	MPEG3 URL
MAC	Media Access Control (address)
MPC	Command line client for MPD
MPEG	Moving Picture Experts Group
MPEG3	Music encoding standard from MPEG
NAS	Network Attached Storage
NFS	Network File System
NTP	Network Time Protocol
MPD	Music Player Daemon
OS	Operating system (Rasbian Wheezy in this case)
PC	Personal Computer
PID	Process ID

PLS	MPEG Playlist File (as used by Winamp)
RSS	Really Simple Syndication – Web feed usually containing news items
SD	San Disk Memory Card commonly found in cameras and Smartphone's
SPI	Serial Peripheral Interface (Motorola)
SSID	An SSID is the public name of a wireless network.
TCP/IP	The network protocol used by the Internet and computer networks.
UDP	Universal Datagram Protocol. A connectionless network protocol.
URL	Universal Resource Locator (A link to a Web page for example)
USB	Universal Serial Bus
WEP	Wired Equivalent Privacy (WEP) is a security algorithm considered less secure than WPA
WIFI	Wireless Network using the 802.11 Wireless Network protocol
WPA	Wi-Fi Protected Access (WPA)
WPA2	Wi-Fi Protected Access version II, an enhanced more secure version of WPA.
XML	Extensible Mark-up Language

Appendix A - System Files used by the Radio Program

A.1 Files added to the system

/etc/radiod.conf

This is the main configuration file from version 4.0 of the radio onwards.

```
[RADIOD]

# loglevel is CRITICAL,ERROR,WARNING,INFO,DEBUG or NONE
loglevel=INFO

# Startup option either RADIO or MEDIA (USB stick)
startup=RADIO

# Set date format, US format = %H:%M %m/%d/%Y
dateformat=%H:%M %d/%m/%Y

# MPD port number (Do not change unless MPD reconfigured)
mpdport=6600

# Remote control communication host and port Default localhost 5100
remote_control_host=localhost
remote_control_port=5100

# Remote control UDP server listen host either
# 0.0.0.0 (All interfaces) or localhost (default)
remote_listen_host=localhost

# Output LED for remote control, default GPIO 11 (pin 23) or
# GPIO 13 (pin 33) for AdaFruit plate or PiFace CAD (40 pin RPi needed)
# remote_led=0 is no output LED
remote_led=0

# For two line displays only. Display playlist number in brackets yes or no
display_playlist_number=no

# Background colours (If supported) See Adafruit RGB plate
# options OFF, RED, GREEN, BLUE, YELLOW, TEAL, VIOLET, WHITE
bg_color=WHITE
mute_color=VIOLET
shutdown_color=TEAL
error_color=RED
search_color=GREEN
info_color=BLUE
menu_color=YELLOW
source_color=TEAL
sleep_color=OFF

# The i2cbackpack is either ADAFRUIT or PCF8475
# i2c_backpack=PCF8475
i2c_backpack=ADAFRUIT
```

/etc/logrotate.d/radiod

This file causes the /var/log/radio.log to be rotated so that it doesn't continue to grow and fill the disk.

```
/var/log/radio.log {
    weekly
    missingok
    rotate 4
    compress
    notifempty
```

```
    maxsize 150000
    copytruncate
    create 600
}
```

Old log files are compressed and renamed, for example **/var/log/radio.log.1.gz**.

/etc/init.d/radiod

This is the start stop script for the radio daemon. The NAME parameter must be changed to point to the correct radio program. This is done by the **select_daemon.sh** shell script which is called during the installation procedure.

```
# Change NAME parameter this next line to the version of the daemon you are
using
# Choices are radiod.py, radio4.py, rradiod.py, rradio4.py, ada_radio.py,
# rradiobp4.py or rradiobp.py
# No spaces around the = character
NAME=radio4.py
```

This script is linked to the start stop run levels in the **/etc** directory.

For example:

```
ls -la /etc/rc2.d/S03radiod
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 16 Nov  8 14:28 /etc/rc3.d/S03radiod ->
../init.d/radiod
```

/etc/init.d/pifacercd

This is the service start stop script for the PiFace remote control daemon. This starts and stops the **/home/pi/radio/piface_remote.py** program which handles the remote control for the PiFace Control and Display IR interface. This script is linked to the start stop run levels in the **/etc** directory.

/etc/lirc/lircrc

This file contains the button definitions for the remote control to Pi radio interface.

```
begin
    prog = piradio
    button = KEY_VOLUMEUP
    config = KEY_VOLUMEUP
end

begin
    prog = piradio
    button = KEY_VOLUMEDOWN
    config = KEY_VOLUMEDOWN
end

begin
    prog = piradio
    button = KEY_CHANNELUP
    config = KEY_CHANNELUP
end

begin
    prog = piradio
    button = KEY_CHANNELDOWN
    config = KEY_CHANNELDOWN
end

begin
    prog = piradio
    button = KEY_MUTE
    config = KEY_MUTE
end
```

```
begin
  prog = piradio
  button = KEY_MENU
  config = KEY_MENU
end
```

/etc/cron.hourly/podcast

This file runs the **create_podcasts.py** program every hour and creates the podcast playlists.

```
#!/bin/bash
# Create podcasts from list in podcast file

if [[ -f /var/lib/radiod/podcasts ]]; then
  echo "Create podcasts `date`" > /var/log/podcasts.log 2>&1
  sudo /home/pi/radio/create_podcasts.py >> /var/log/podcasts.log
2>&1
fi
```

A.2 System files modified by the installation

All files to be modified by the installation process are first copied to <filename>.orig.

/etc/inittab

This file controls the initialisation of the Debian OS. The installation disables the serial line on the GPIO as this would create a conflict with the radio program.

```
#T0:23:respawn:/sbin/getty -L ttyAMA0 115200 vt100
# Original file stored as /etc/inittab.orig
```

/boot/cmdline.txt

This installation program disables the serial line start-up. The following line:

```
dwc_otg.lpm_enable=0 console=ttyAMA0,115200 console=tty1 root=/dev/mmcblk0p2
rootfstype=ext4 elevator=deadline rootwait
```

is changed to:

```
dwc_otg.lpm_enable=0 console=tty1 root=/dev/mmcblk0p2 rootfstype=ext4
elevator=deadline rootwait
# Original file stored as /boot/cmdline.txt.orig
```

/etc/modules

If the i2C interface is installed then the i2c-dev module definition is added to this file. A reboot is required to load the module.

```
snd-bcm2835
i2c-bcm2708
i2c-dev
# Original file stored as /etc/modules.orig
```

/boot/config.txt

This is amended if installing the IR software by adding the lirc-rpi device definition. For example:

```
dtoverlay=lirc-rpi,gpio_in_pin=9
```

Appendix B – Wiring diagrams

B.1 Raspberry Pi Rotary Encoder version with backlight dimmer

The following diagram was provided by Joaquin Perez, Broadcast Engineer, Leeds. He also shows the circuitry to dim the backlight using a BS170 Mosfet transistor (Software to support the LED dimmer to follow in a later release).

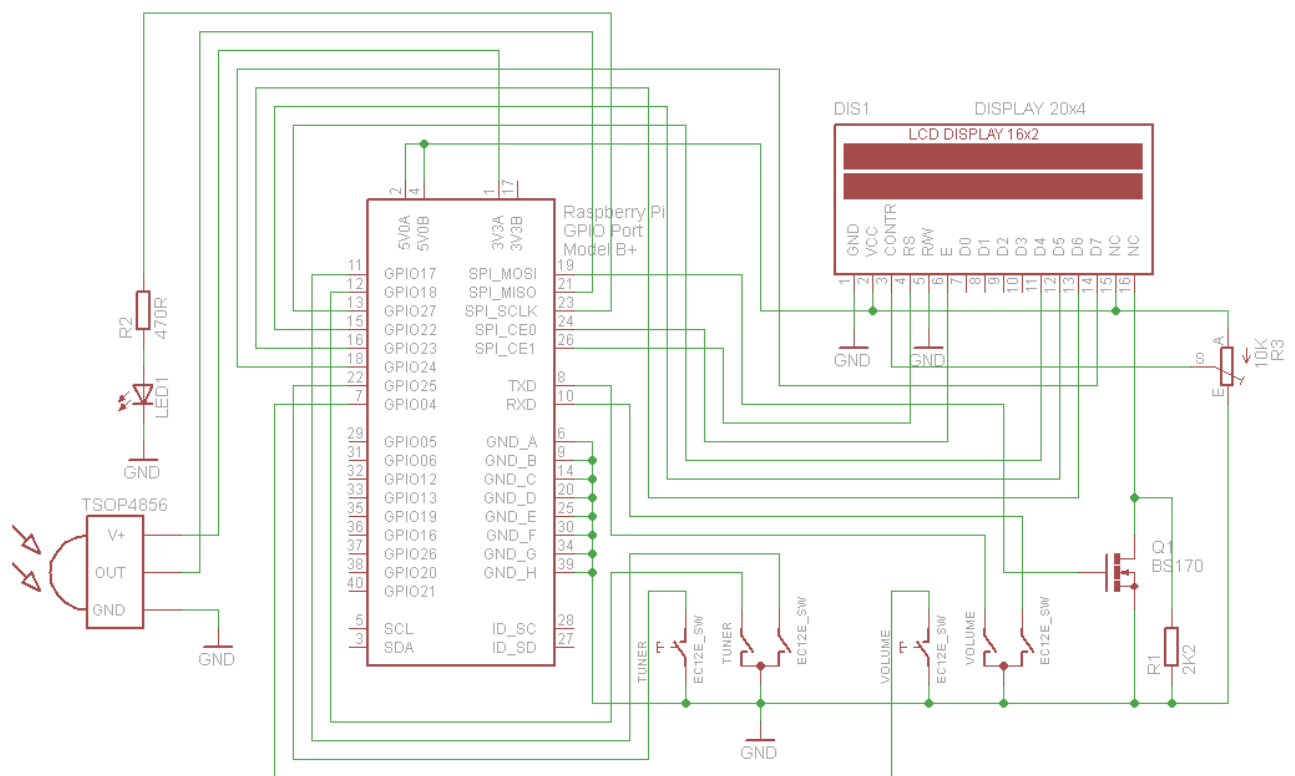


Figure 69 Wiring Raspberry Pi Radio Rotary Encoder version