

CHELMSFORD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

News Sheet No. 7

Meetings

The next meeting of the Society will be held on Tuesday the 5th July 1966, at the Marconi College Arbour Lane, Chelmsford commencing at 7.30 p.m.

The guest speaker this month will be Mr P. Balestrini, G3BPT, who has kindly agreed to talk on "Radio Equipment Used By The Port Of London Authorities". The talk will be illustrated by colour slides and a film.

Forthcoming Events

North Foreland GNF. The visit to North Foreland on SATURDAY 9th July, has now been booked. The coach will leave Marconi College at 0845 hrs BST to arrive at Broadstairs around about mid-day. During the journey details will be given concerning time and meeting place for the subsequent visit to GNF. It is anticipated that for the return trip the coach will leave Broadstairs between 1800 to 1900 hrs. Arrangements have been made for those arriving by car at Marconi College for use of the car park.

There are still tickets available so make sure of yours now for an interesting visit to GNF while the rest of the family explore Broadstairs.

D.F. Hunts

Direction Finding has proved to be so popular in the past that tentative dates for further events during the summer months are as follows:-

Sunday, 24th July 1966
Sunday, 25th September 1966
(official by G3OYX!)

Please note that there will be no meeting in August and that the Annual General Meeting will take place in September.

News Items

Most members will have already heard that Roy Martyr, G3PMX, is unfortunately in Hospital, Ward C, Chelmsford and Essex Hospital, London Road. However, he tells us that progress is satisfactory and we all wish him a speedy recovery. In the meantime meetings are well attended in Ward C and the transistorised receiver is providing valiant service on top band.

D.F. Results

The Direction Finding event held on the 22nd May was well supported and once again provided an interesting afternoon. The Hidden Station was located in Chantry Wood near Wickham Bishops. The first to arrive was Mike Rignall, G3OYX, at 1458 which was a very good effort but not quite within his predicted ETA and was closely followed by Peter Blair, G3LTF at 1500. The station was well concealed and at least two competitors are known to have turned the wood upside down without success. Those taking part included G3EIX, 3LTF, 3OCM, 3OYX, 3PDK, 3PMX, 3PMW, 3RLQ, 3RMN, 5IX and 6RM. We take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to G3KPJ for running the station single handed and to G4VF for once again covering the task of fixed station, ably assisted by Paul Selwood.

National Field Day

NFD this year was somewhat of a triumph for improvisation though once again we lacked sufficient operators to enable a really efficient pair of stations to be run. A very enjoyable picnic lunch, prepared by the XYLs of G3EIX and G3LTF, was eaten by some 14 helpers and operators on Saturday before starting the hard work of erecting masts, tents etc. For the second year running we were operational well before zero hour and things went quite smoothly, with G3SXX dispensing tea and cheer in the small hours until around 0700 the generator developed a split in the fuel tank and an alternator fault which took some time to find and cure! The rains was high enough after this episode to cause a failure in the "B" station transmitter so we lost about 3 hours.

Now, what about next year. We do need some more operators - is it lack of CW interest, disgust of having to operate valved gear on frequencies below 30 mc/s instead of the fully solid state gear that a Society with our "connections" ought to have. We can't do much about the former but the latter, well it's up to you to come forward (it's better than being nominated) and offer to build some up to date gear that will run for 24 hours from a few 12 volt accumulators. If the PA is too much of a problem then a SB254 or possibly a quick heat version could be used. Anyway think it over chaps, it is not long till next June!

Finally our thanks to Ron for his beer and his steel masts (both essential), to his XYL for her excellent F.D. cake the XYLs of G3EIX, G3LTF and G3PMX for the work in connection with the picnic lunch and to all the guy holders, mallet fetchers, water obtainers, hammer head retrievers, etc., etc. P.S. we are also in the market for a site where the HF occupants would call us instead of vice-versa.

News Items from Members

H.W. Pope, G3HT suggests the following method for measuring small capacitors. Using a low output oscillator e.g. GDO provide a pair of terminals across the tuning condenser. Listen on your receiver to the oscillator with the condenser vanes fully meshed and tune to zero beat. Clip the unknown condenser (by means of the terminals) across the oscillator condenser. Reducing the oscillator condenser produces chirp when the reduction of it's C equals the capacity of the unknown. Calibrate with 5 or 6 condensers of known values and interpolate the scale.

From G3PDK we hear that the top band mobile gear is now installed in the car but the whip is still under construction. It is intended to be 8 ft. helically loaded whip wound on fibreglass fishing rod.

Exchange and Mart

L. Wanted. - Command Receiver Q5'er for 3-6 Mc/s and 6-9 Mc/s.
Postcard please to:-

J. Rollason,
19, Braemar Avenue,
CHELMSFORD

Stop Press

G3KPJ and G3OYX tied for first place in the DF event on 26th June. Full details next month.