

Meetings

Members are reminded that there will be no meeting in August and that the Annual General Meeting will take place in September.

News Items

Horizontal Top Band by G3PMX. "Recently I was compelled to spend some time in Chelmsford Hospital, this column in the news letter is not only to prescribe for members similarly afflicted, a 160 metre receiver for their bedside locker but mainly to express my appreciation to all society members for their kind thoughts and deeds bestowed throughout my "confinement".

My complaint restricted me to complete inactivity in bed for three weeks, naturally for the first few days, social activities were of little interest but soon however, time began to drag, interspersed only by the all too short visiting hours. Then came the "Top Band" receiver, removed from the car by my XYL. At once I was in touch with the outside world again, it is surprising how much activity there is to provide interest for the invalided listener, from the early morning "Shaving Club" through the lunch time QSO's to the evening news bulletins provided for my benefit.

Since there must be a limit to the space given to this appreciation, I am not able to detail all the individual acts of kindness, I must however record that not a single evening passed without a visitor from our amateur radio fraternity."

73 J.R.D. Martyr

D.F. Results

The Direction Finding event held on the 26th June produced somewhat of a record with a total of eleven teams setting out from Marconi College.

The Hidden Station, under the call of G5LX/P, was located at Map reference TL.617123 near Great Easter and was established in a hedge bounded on one side by a stream with rather uninviting marshland on the other. On this occasion all the equipment was transistorised which performed well although a stronger signal at the starting point would have been welcomed by some competitors.

The first arrivals were Arthur Butcher G3KPJ and Mike Rignall G3OYX who converged from different directions at 1615 hrs to tie for first place, with some observations concerning stinging nettles. There was then a lull in proceedings until Arthur Wreford G3EHZ began to probe the area with audible requests for a boat before making contact at 1655 hrs. The pace then began to quicken and most of the competitors had arrived by the time the station closed down at 1710 hours.

Those taking part included G3EHZ, G3EIX, G3LTF, G3OCM, G3OYX, G3PDK, G3PMW, G3RLQ, G3RMN, Ian Gillis and Ken Hooper. Roy Philpot G3VCH put in valiant work ~~in establishing~~ the station which included testing the temperature of the stream.

Finally, special thanks to G4VF who once again covered the task of the base station with assistance from Paul Selwood.

North Foreland GNF

The coach party to Broadstairs on the 9th July went according to plan with the added advantage of good weather, the journey took just over three hours with a quarter of an hour stop en route. After lunch members re-gathered at the coach park to travel the short distance to North Foreland which is situated on the outskirts of the town. A good two hours were spent at the station which provided ample opportunity to see all the equipment and ply the staff with innumerable questions. Many thanks to these stalwarts for coping with all this and normal duties. A brief spell in Broadstairs allowed time for tea before setting off on the return journey to reach Chelmsford soon after 9 o'clock. It seems that a good day was had by all.