

CHELMSFORD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY.
NEWSLETTER NO. 171.

April 1980.

Next Meeting.

The April meeting will be a lecture by Mr.M.G.Knight of the English Electric Valve Co., about the history and products of the Company. There are many of us who have seen the factory from the outside, but only a few know exactly what is produced behind those walls. This promises to be a first class lecture, so come along to see why Chelmsford is so firmly on the map as an electronics industries centre.

The meeting will take place at Marconi College, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford on 1st April 1980 at 7.30 p.m.

Committee Meeting.

Wednesday April 9th, Wheatsheaf, New Street, 7.30 p.m. These meetings are by no means a "closed shop" for committee members. All club members are welcome to attend to air their views and to suggest new ideas etc. Please feel free to come along, and you never know, you may even get a pint bought for you.

Ode to Bill, by John G8DET.

Now that Bill has given up editing the Newsletter we can publish our thanks without him editing it out !

Bill Pechey G4CUE has belonged to the Chelmsford A.R.S. since approx; 1970 and has undertaken the role as Chairman, Newsletter Editor and Committee Member. He has provided the Society with technical drive (grid current or is it base current) on D.F. and Repeater interest. Although we will miss him we wish him all the best in his new job down Reading way and hope to see him at future D.F contests.

New Members.

The club welcomes two new members to the fold, D.Thomas and G.Kyte.

Ongar Radio.

The trip to Ongar Radio has unfortunately been postponed (by the Post Office) a week until May 27th 1980. Would those 15 members who gave me their names for the trip please contact me as soon as possible to confirm this new date is still 100% with them.

D.F. Events.

The dates of the Colchester D.F. events have been announced. They are as follows :-

| | | |
|-------------|------------|-----------------|
| 25th April. | 20th June. | 29th August. |
| 23rd May. | 25th July. | 26th September. |

These are Friday evening events starting at 7.30 p.m. at Fordham Heath next to the "Star" Public House. These events have been known to start a little early around about opening time.

On November 7th at 7.00 p.m. there will be the Colchester night-event. Further details of these events from Ian Butson G4HKC.

Colchester and Chelmsford Clubs have joined forces to produce a joint D.F. hunt on 12th October, starting at Galleywood at 2.00 p.m.

For Chelmsford D.F. dates please see last months newsletter.

D.F. - Equipment.

The club has traditionally run Direction Finding competitions on a sunday afternoon, but this year with some of the participants leaving the area, we find ourselves a bit thin on the ground with the hunters and the hunted.

As you will have seen from a recent lecture by Eric Mollart, D.F. is tremendous fun, and a thoroughly enjoyable way to spend a sunday afternoon. I personally have only been on hunts for two or three years, starting by tagging along with a competitor with a D.F. set. If anyone is interested in coming along, but has not yet got a D.F. set, please let me know so I can make arrangements, or even just turn up at Galleywood on Sunday April 12th, where there is bound to be a spare seat in a car.

This year we are also a bit short of Class A Licencees and portable top band rigs, so if anyone is able, willing, and mad enough to lose themselves within 20 miles of Chelmsford with a top band TX on sunday afternoon, I will be very glad to hear from them.

New Sked.

Les G4CUT has been in contact with stations in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, U.S.A. who would like to start a regular sked with amateurs in Chelmsford, U.K. If you are interested please contact Les. An exchange of newsletters between the Chelmsford Clubs has already been arranged and the U.S.A. edition will be on display at club meetings as they arrive.

Mobile Operators - Warning by Mike G8DNO.

The story in order, three years ago there was a general increase in illegal C.B. activity, the Home Office have declined to provide an Amateur Radio Licence which distinguishes operators from this illegal activity by indicating the period of validity, however, the R.S.G.B. now issue an identity card with the blessing of the Home Office. These cards together with a copy of the licence front page provide to the police an indication rather than proof that the amateur is engaged in a lawfull activity, this qualification was necessary because a number of amateurs were being prosecuted for illegal C.B. activity.

About 6 months ago there was a further increase in C.B. activity and a consequent increase in reports of amateurs being apprehended, 3 months ago the numbers of amateurs being stopped in Essex increased considerably, apparently because the C.B. sets are being imported through Essex, i.e. Harwich, Stansted and Southend.

The numbers have steadily increased and recently a member of the R.S.G.B. was arrested and held for three hours at Harlow Police Station, this appears at face value to have been unnecessary, the R.S.G.B. is representing this member in an enquiry to the Home Office.

The R.S.G.B. advise to an amateur is to carry a photo copy of the front page of the licence and some other form of identification, i.e. R.S.G.B, I.D. Card, Driving Licence, Credit Card, R.S.G.B. membership card etc., and to cooperate fully with the police since as the law stands at present they are only doing their job.

Silent Key.

The Society records with regret the death of member T.Carter, G3VCF. Tommy Carter who died on 11th March 1980 was our Secretary in 1968/69 and Chairman 1969/72, he will be remembered for his generous fund raising activities and his energetic contributions to N.F.D's. In recognition for his services he was made a "life member" of C.A.R.S. The Society was represented at the funeral by our Chairman, John G3KRZ.

Finale.

I hope this newsletter has been of some interest to you, but in order that I may produce a more varied and interesting newsletter, I would like members to send me items such as band reports, ideas, modifications to equipment etc. Anything considered, so please put pen to paper and let's have some really interesting articles in the newsletters.

73's 'till next month,

Andrew G8KQE.

Braintree 23821 (Day)
Silver End 83094 (Any other time)
or GB3ER or 144,30 MHz.

9, Abrahams Drive,
Silver End,
Witham.

WANTED.

Vibroplex C.W.Key. Contact Ian, G4HKC, 0206 860724 in the evening.