

CHELMSFORD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER No.226

December 1984

NEXT MEETING

We have two topics being presented at the next meeting. The venue is the Marconi College, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford, at 7:30pm on Tuesday, 4th December 1984.

Many of you, perhaps, have travelled over the Army & Navy flyover. You may have noticed, even, that there are signs controlling the direction of the one-way traffic flow, which change several times a day to relieve the worst of Chelmsford's infamous traffic congestion. Have you ever wondered how these signs change automatically? Brian Scroggs, G6FLI, has the secret. If you come to the next meeting, you can discover it too.

A number of local operators have been using modified UK CB sets to get themselves onto the 10m band with FM. This is becoming an increasingly popular and remarkably cheap way of getting on the air. Some sets commercially available can be bought for under £20. A few models are very easy to convert so that they operate on a selection of frequencies above 28MHz. John Greenwood, G3KRZ, will explain how it is done, who is doing it already, and what you are likely to find if you do it too.

COMMITTEE MEETING

As usual the Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, 12th December, at 7.30 p.m. in the bar of Marconi Residence. Members are welcome to join us.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

8th January - The Film Show.

**** NOTE - LAST MONTH'S NEWSLETTER HAD THE WRONG DATE ABOVE ****

26th January - The Social - see below...

SOCIAL EVENING

The Committee are arranging another Annual Club Dinner for, Saturday evening, 26th January 1985, at The Rose & Crown carvery, Writtle. If it is anything like the last one we had, we expect 25 or so people to have a thoroughly enjoyable time. I will be accepting a deposit of £2-00 per head at the next meeting or by post to the Secretary up until 12th December. The balance of about £4-00 can come later. Drinks are not included in this price.

LAST MEETING

This had to be one of the best attended nights we have had, in spite of the last-second changes! Sorry about that. Our thanks must go to Jon Perkins, newly moved to Chelmsford, for stepping into the breach to save the day, and also to Ian Wade for "volunteering" Jon to talk about RTTY and packet radio! It was a very enjoyable and informative evening for the 41 people who came.

CLUB NET

The new club 2 metre FM net on Tuesday evenings (7:15pm on S11, 145.275MHz) got off to a good start last month with six people checking in on the first night. How many were "just listening"? These will continue. One question, though:- Is the frequency we have chosen convenient for all? If anyone has problems, tell a Committee member.

ROGUES' GALLERY

Not such a good response to our "Who's Who" campaign at the last meeting - Only two mug shots and summaries on the board - Even the Committee are a bit shy (myself included!). Let's see some more. Meanwhile, to those who did dare to reveal all, thanks and congratulations. All we want is a small spare photo (e.g. passport type) and a few words about who you are and what you like so all can see what a wide range of people we have as members.

SURVEY - JOHN G8MKX

Here are some more results from the survey forms you handed in at the AGM:-

52% of the membership returned the survey forms. Out of these 33, 9 were Class B licencees.

The most popular band was 2m with 66% of the membership operating on this band; 20m came next, then 15m and 10m in that order followed by 70cm with 42%. The least used bands were 18m, 12m, 23cm and microwave bands with two people operating on each.

SSB was the most popular mode with 78%; 60% of members had a keen interest in construction and 54% were keen on rallies. 45% of people were interested in computers, with the BBC the most popular (6 out of 11 computer owners).

The most popular subjects requested for lectures were Operating Procedures, Band Planning, RFI and EMC Testing.

The Survey Conclusions will be on the notice board at the next meeting.

50MHz - LES G4CUT

In addition to the original 40 special permits granted by the D.T.I. two years ago they have now issued another 60. These came in to effect on 10th November 1984 and it is becoming quite a problem to find a clear frequency to operate on without causing problems to another station on the band.

A good piece of news, the Norwegian Post Office are going to grant 25 permits to operate in the 50MHz band with operating time restrictions (outside TV hours), these should be on the band in about 5 weeks time.

The OX beacon which operated during IGY has now been put back on the air, a good backup to this would be a beacon somewhere in New England. Below is a short list of 50MHz beacons which, when used in conjunction with 28MHz system give a pretty good idea as to propagation at 50MHz.

50.020MHz	GB3SIX
50.035MHz	ZB2VHF
50.045MHz	OX3VHF
50.050MHz	GB3NHQ
50.500MHz	5B4LY

At the moment operation is only permitted between the hours of 11.30 p.m - 8.30 a.m. (local). Most DX has been worked at night up to one hour after start time in a north westerly direction and in a south easterly direction one and a half hours before finish time.

HERE AND THERE - ELA G6HKM

The Society extends a welcome to three new members this month, D.J. Watson G6FLZ, Geoff Cockerill and Andrew Slater both SWL's.

The 'G4' prefix has now run out and the 'G0' series are being issued. I have not heard or worked any yet have you?

Finally a reminder to all those who have not renewed their subscriptions, I will be very pleased to take your money at the next meeting, if you are not able to come along then please send to me at "Little Fellows", 1, High Houses, Mashbury Road, Great Waltham, Chelmsford, CM3 1EL, your new membership card will then be posted with your next newsletter. Have you done your Christmas shopping yet? how about a years subscription as a gift!

73,

Ian, G4BYR,

Harlow (0279) 441244 Ext.307 (Day)
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FOR SALE

Datong Morse Tutor D70 (Boxed) £38. Elia G6HKM Tel.No.Chelmsford 360545