

# Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society.

NEWSLETTER No.260

September 1987

## **NEXT MEETING - Crime Prevention.**

Periodically we introduce a non-radio subject into our programme of talks although security can be considered as an allied interest because the need to protect ones belongings in the home and in the car will often include personal items of electronic equipment associated with amateur radio.

To provide us with the professional approach to the subject we are pleased to announce that PC Jeff Butler of the Essex Police will present his talk and a video recording on Tuesday 1st September at the Marconi College, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford.

The meeting will commence at 7.30pm and we look forward to an interesting and informative evening.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- 30 Aug. - G3EDM Garden Party.
- 1 Sept. - Crime Prevention - PC Jeff Butler.
- 20 Sept. - Vange ARS Rally - Nicholas School, Laindon.
- 27 Sept. - Harlow Mobile Rally - Harlow Sports Centre.
- 6 Oct. - Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society - A.G.M.
- 3 Nov. - Junk Sale (start collecting now!)
- 1 Dec. - Packet Radio.

## **SOCIAL EVENT - Garden Party at the QTH of G3EDM.**

This newsletter should arrive in time to remind you of this social event for C.A.R.S. members and their families on Sunday 30th August.

The location is 'Tanglewood', The Ridge, Little Baddow, beginning at 3:00pm, please bring along your own deck/folding chairs.

This event can only be held with the weather permitting, if you have any doubts on the day please check on S20 or GB3ER or by phone to Roy & Ela on Chelmsford 360545.

## **LAST MONTHS MEETING - Television & Telerecording History. - Brian G0BDS**

Last months meeting was for many a nostalgic look at the development of television and its associated equipment. Max, G4ZMQ was really in there at the beginning it seems; he started at E.M.I. servicing the new Superhet radio sets in 1934 and has fond memories of girls "de-bagging" eligible men when the occasion arose. However, time passed and 1935 saw him at St.Johns Wood working on T.V. development, then in 1936 when T.V. broadcasting first started and the Baird v E.M.I. trials proved the E.M.I. system best, Max was lucky to be on the winning side and so became involved in outside broadcasts.

Max produced photos of O.B's 1937 style, Cricket at Lords, the Thames Boat Race and also with more photos told us of the Gun Ranging trials of the old Iron Duke battleship with a T.V. radio link to an Anson aircraft flying overhead.

During W.W.2. when T.V. broadcasting was cancelled the attention of the T.V. research people was turned to the war effort on Radar development and even "Mine" detection from aircraft with Marconi and E.M.I. working together to solve the problems.

The need to record the T.V. pictures had arisen many times but it was not until 1947/8 when T.V. broadcasting had resumed and Marconi and E.M.I. had gone their separate ways, that competitive development by a number of companies began, including Ampex of America. Marconi opted for the 16mm fast-pull-down telecine machine which had 2000ft film reels that could give about an hour of recording.

Many mechanical and electronic innovations were described by Max, including the fast-pull-down mechanism for 1.3 to 2.0 m/sec between frames (compared to 4 m/sec in the cinema), "spot wobble" to obscure the lines in the T.V. raster, electronic gamma correction to produce a good grey-scale on the processed film and life testing of the film stock with 7ft loops which surprisingly ran continuously for 300 hours without breaking.

Because the need for photographic control was paramount, Rank Precision Engineers designed the camera for Marconi's machine, and even used oil cooled gates in its design. However, in spite of the originality and reliability of the Marconi machine the Ampex magnetic tape recorder gained control of the market and confined Marconi's total sales of film recorders to 26.

To end the lecture several short snippets of film were shown which indicated the quality of the telecine machines even when pictures had been recorded firstly through the Ampex machine and then the Marconi machine. During the screenings, a comparison of direct positive to reversal recording was pointed out.

Now of course, small video tape recorders have taken over so that we can even record at home what programmes we consider worthy, assuming that there are some transmitted in the first place.

Many thanks to Max for an interesting historical lecture.

## **CLUB NETS**

Remember that for up-to-date information on the activities of the society between meetings join in the Tuesday club nets.

The 2 Metre FM Net begins at 7.45pm, on 145.225MHz (or nearby if this channel is already occupied) and the 10 Metre SSB Net on 28.325MHz starting at 8.30pm.

#### VHF, UHF AND SHF ACTIVITY - E1a G6HKM.

Although this area has not had any extended Sporadic E openings on 2m this year we have had quite a few short openings and I have been fortunate enough to work Italy, Sicily, Isle of Capri, Spain, Malta, Poland, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, LZ being my best ever DX at 2157kms. You can be in the shack tuning the band and still miss Sporadic E!

We had a very good Tropo opening to the south of France (Mediterranean coast) and northern Italy on the 12th/13th August when I had my first contacts to Italy via this propagation, it was a case of switch off for bed at 1.30 a.m. and switch on again at 5.45 a.m. when I was rewarded by working I2FHW who was calling CQ on 144.300 MHz with a signal of 5-9+. 432MHz was also good and some stations were fortunate enough to work Italy on CW.

My European contest calender listed a 23cms contest in France on the 16th August starting at 04.00 gmt, Roy was the early riser (not at 04.00 I hasten to add) and when I had an early morning cup of tea he was delighted to tell me he had worked a new country, one up on me! This news soon got me up and about and it was not long before I was in the shack, together we worked a number of French stations, our best DX to date is FD1GVA/P at 692kms.

What have you worked recently?, why not let us have your news.

#### MORSE TUTORS

If you have a Morse Tutor on loan and would like to return or extend the loan please arrange this with E1a, G6HKM at the meetings, both Tutors are out at the moment, however, your name can be put on the waiting list.

#### COMMITTEE MEETING

The September Committee Meeting will be held in the Marconi College Residence at 7:30pm on Wednesday, 9th September. You are most welcome to join us.

Sorry the newsletter is short this month - not much input!

73 from Roy & E1a, G3PMX & G6HKM

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### MEMBERS ADVERTISEMENTS

#### FOR SALE

YAESU FT290, 2.5 watt, multimode transceiver c/w batteries, battery charger, soft case and manual. £200 or near offer. Dave, G8UUO. Phone Chelmsford 252170.

#### FOR SALE

Surplus to requirement, New 4 core telephone cable, British Telecom spec: CW 1308, 100 metre reel £8.50 or 10p/metre. Roy, G3PMX.