

# Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society.

NEWSLETTER No.265

February 1988

## NEXT MEETING - Club Quiz.

We have had to rename the meeting for this month because the Braintree Club are unable to provide a participating team - never mind - we will press on regardless as we did when the Colchester team did not arrive.

Two teams from within CARS have 'offered' their services for the evening which ably supported by our quizmaster/chairman should provide an informative and entertaining session.

The meeting begins at 7.30pm, on Tuesday 2nd February, at the Marconi College, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford and we look forward to seeing you there to cheer on the team of your choice.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 2 Feb. CLUB MEETING - Club Quiz, Chelmsford vs. Chelmsford.
  - 1 Mar. CLUB MEETING - General Servicing & Repair of Amateur Equipment, G6AKL.
  - 5 Apr. CLUB MEETING - To be announced.
  - 3 May CLUB MEETING - Visit to Chelmsford Police Headquarters.
- \*\* Please note, NO MEETING AT THE COLLEGE IN MAY. \*\*

## LAST MONTHS MEETING - ANNUAL VIDEO & FILM SHOW - Brian G0BDS.

Another new year had started and as normal this was the time for us to broaden our knowledge on all things radio and anything else. A good selection of viewing that covered many related topics had been prepared, and it was not long before we were all watching the exploits of Owen Garriot W5LFL when he became the first Ham to use his licence in space on Space Shuttle STS 9.

His first contact using a 2 metre handheld and circular folded dipole, by the looks of it, was WA1JXN. It was some miracle that the TV camera just happened to be at that chap's shack at the right time, or was it arranged?

The video then went on to extol the virtues, and quite rightly, of amateur involvement in all the new technology that is now taken for granted, things like AMSAT and computers.

The second video about the Japanese Amateur Satellite JAS1 told us it took about three years of high technical effort to design and build this Digital and Analogue equipment with Up Link on 144MHz and Down Link on 435MHz. Its weight of about 50KG was finally put into space on the back of a "Private" rocket on 13th August, 1986 after much testing. Once in orbit and having been tested once more from planet Earth, it was given the call sign AG1JAS and is now used by Amateurs worldwide.

Microwave Artistry, from the Big "M" was next, and in this, we were privileged to see two of our own members, namely Phil G0ELM and Murray G6JYB. The video made at Great Baddow gave viewers an insight into the developments currently taking place within the Research Development site. On video Phil showed us advice for measuring the speed of a shell as it leaves the muzzle of an Army Mobile Gun. Other items shown included Strip Line and E plane transmission lines, Circulators, Combiners and test equipment operating up to at least 100GHz or more.

A video from the British National Space Centre identified several major existing and future projects they have on their Menu, projects like H.O.T.O.L. and Olympus, the biggest ever communications satellite.

After the tea break we saw a promotional video on Inmos Transputers and the way in which they can be used to provide Parallel Processing, which means a linear increase in computing power as further Transputers are added.

As Dick G3WHR put the final touches to his cine equipment to show us HF Field Day 1977 style, we had what is becoming the customary TOM & JERRY cartoon. 1977 Field Day had the Club Members in Hylands Park erecting an enormous three band quad which they then without the aid of a scaffold tower miraculously placed it on top of the pneumatic tower. Some of the faces are ones we still see at current Field Days, including that wellknown Toxophilite Arthur G3KPJ and Les G4CUT.

So once again our thanks go to Les for the loan of his VCR and Dick for the Cine equipment, not forgetting anybody else who brought things like video tapes that were not used.

## CODE-BREAKER - Bill Cole, G4JUW.

Morse Code, the means of communication devised by Samuel Morse in 1840, is nearing the end of it's useful life. This is the view put forward by our commercial colleagues at Portishead Radio, the world-wide maritime radio station operated by British Telecom.

In the last eight years, CW traffic has decreased from 2,500 to 1,000 messages per day, and is presently tailing off at 10% each year. Tipped to "sink into oblivion" during the next decade, the hand-sent code is being replaced by modern automatic RadioTelex services.

When, in 1997, all ships will be required to be equipped with a Global Maritime Distress and Safety System the Morse distress watch will cease. Then perhaps the only code to be heard will be on the Amateur bands. Di-dah-dit Di-dit Di-dah-dah-dit.

## G81ECN AND G81CBC - Dave G8UUO.

The callsign G81ECN was licenced for 28 days, 504 contacts were made, mainly on 2m FM and SSB, with just a couple of contacts on 70cms. Best DX worked was John GW4FRX in Welshpool. Money is still being collected but it is hoped to raise approximately £60 for the Essex Children in Need Fund.

The callsign G81CBC, (Chelmsford Borough Centenary) will be operating from 29th July - 25th August inclusive, as part of the Borough Celebrations.

**DF NEWS - The Snowman - Dick, G3WHR.**

No snow this year - so the event took place on schedule. Nine teams assembled on Fordham Heath for the start.

Both stations gave good signals with G0BTH/P being quite strong. Two competitors suffered from 180 degree sense errors - one was corrected at the start, but the other team left heading in the wrong direction.

The A station G0BTH/P was hidden in some undeveloped ground near Parsons Heath, on the outskirts of Colchester. One team took advantage of a remembered conversation with Paul while acting as his navigator, and successfully guessed the location. The rest of us investigated a small wood nearby before our bearings led us to the site. As usual there were one or two earth stakes to find before the transmitter could be located.

The B station was the debut of G0IKU/P and gave Colin Baisden his first opportunity to turn the tables on all last years hidden station operators. Colin used his accumulated knowledge well - with multiple earth stakes, lots of wire, and a good site on the old railway track South of Maldon - he proved very difficult to find. By the time I arrived there were several wide tracks into the undergrowth, especially around the earth stakes. With the end of the contest and darkness approaching fast, I was glad of some assistance. Colin was beginning to wonder where all the competitors had got to, and was dropping hints to aid latecomers.

Afterwards we enjoyed the hospitality of Ian and Pat Butson. They provided the necessary multiple cups of tea which calm frustrated DF hunters, and prevent them from murdering the transmitter operators.

**Results**

Posn	Name	Stn A	Stn B
1	Dick Brocks	2.40	4.21
2	Philip Cunningham	3.19	4.28
3	Roy Emeny	4.28.5	3.21
4	Ian Butson	4.30	3.18
5	Alan Williams	4.30.1	3.21
6	Mike Farmer	2.03	--
7	Jeff Herbert	4.03	--
8	Pete Bishop	4.22	--
9	Richard Whitney	4.28	--

**COMMITTEE MEETING**

The February Committee Meeting will be held in the Marconi College Residence at 7:30pm on Wednesday, 10th February. You are most welcome to join us.

73 from Roy & Ela Martyr, G3PMX & G6HKM

Telephone, Home (0245) 360545  
or Office (0245) 353221 Ex.3815

1, High Houses,  
Mashbury Road,  
Great Waltham,  
CM3 1EL.

**MEMBERS ADVERTISEMENTS****FOR SALE**

Datong R.F. Speech Clipper with handbook, £20 o.n.o.

Brian G3CVI, (evenings) Tel No. (0245)71919.

**WANTED**

Pye "Cambridge" dashmount. Prefer on 144MHz, but anything considered. Good price paid for quality specimen.

Andrew G4KQE, Tel No. (0376)83094.

**STILL WANTED**

8MHz HC6U (tx) and 29MHz HC6U (rx) quartz crystals to multiply up to 4 Metres.

Andrew G4KQE, Tel No. (0376)83094.

**MEMBERSHIP LIST 1987/88**

Ron Ager	G2AGY	Harry Heap	G5HF	Doreen Pechey	G8NMO
John Bowen	G8DET	Albert Hill	G0AEH	Bill Pechey	G4CUE
Dick Brocks	G3WHR	Eric Lawley	G8ADX	Max Pemberton	G4ZMQ
Howard Buckenham	G3PGN	Fred Leach	G2HNF	Sonny Reeve	G1HME
Arthur Butcher	G3KPJ	Derek Leaver	G1NKP	Bernard Reichman	G6RM
Ian Butson	G4HKC	Malcolm Lees	G4KGL	Mark Robertson	G6CMS
Chris Chapman	G0IPU	Harry Lowe	G2HPF	Brian Scroggs	G0BDS
Paul Clark	G0BTH	Ela Martyr	G6HKM	Charles Shelton	G0GJS
F. Cockerill	G2AMQ	Roy Martyr	G3PMX	A. Smith	S.W.L.
Bill Cole	G4JUW	Ian Maslen	G4BYR	Richard Sneath	G8XOX
George Cutting	G3GNQ	Willie McClintock	G3VPK	Lisbeth Stedman	S.W.L.
Ken Daniels	G6WHY	Daphne Mead	G8WQZ	Dave Steward	G4OLU
Ken Dews	G3PMW	Andrew Mead	G4KQE	H. Thomas	G1PNS
John Dodson	S.W.L.	John Miller	G1OBM	Brian Thwaites	G3CVI
Tim Drew	G6FBF	Geoff Mills	G3EDM	Paul Tittensor	G4PVM
Dave Drizen	G8UUU	Len Mitchell	G6SEW	Simon Tonks	G6ZKG
Ken Eastty	G3LVP	William Mosley	S.W.L.	Les Turner	G4CUT
Martin Final	G4T00	Peter Neave	G4DAN	James Watt	G6ZC
Peter Franklin	G1FOA	Murray Niman	G6JYB	Gwyn Williams	G4FKH
John Gilliver	G6JPG	Gerry Parish	G4WML	Geoffrey Worthington	G4CNB
Philip Green	G0ELM	Ron Parry	G5XV	Arthur Wreford	G3EHZ
John Greenwood	G3KRZ				