

Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society.

NEWSLETTER No. 286

November 1989

NEXT MEETING - Sporadic E Propagation.

Tuesday 7th November is a special date in the calendar of our Radio Society when we welcome Jim Bacon, BSc, G3YLA to give his celebrated talk on Sporadic E Propagation.

As will be seen in Jim's recent four part article in Radio Communication, his profession in meteorology and interest in Amateur Radio have promoted the most interesting study of this fascinating and mysterious phenomenon.

You can well imagine that Jim's presentation is eagerly sought throughout the country and we are very pleased that he has accepted our invitation to Chelmsford.

The meeting will begin promptly at 7.30pm and we look forward to a most interesting evening at The Marconi College, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford.

A WORD OF WARNING! Due to the limited capacity of the lecture room we must remind you that entry is by ticket only - please bring it with you!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 7 Nov. CLUB MEETING - Sporadic E Propagation, Jim Bacon G3YLA.
- 5 Dec. CLUB MEETING - Sale of Surplus Equipment.
- 16 Dec. CLUB SOCIAL - Telford Lodge, Arbour Lane.
- 2 Jan. CLUB MEETING - The Annual Film/Video Show.

LAST MONTHS MEETING

The Annual General Meeting appears to be an interruption to the regular flow of technical and informative lectures that we all enjoy so much, however, it is a very necessary part of the smooth running of our Society.

The meeting opened with the reading of the minutes of the 1988 AGM, followed by the reports from the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership-Secretary and President.

A vote of thanks was then given to all the members of the retiring committee in appreciation of the excellent programme they had arranged.

The election of the new committee was comparatively straightforward with all the members of the previous committee volunteering to serve again, the only changes necessary being caused by the vacation of Treasurer Bill Cole, G4JUW.

Brian Thwaites moves from Asst. Treasurer to Treasurer and the vacant position in the committee was filled by Harry Lowe, G2HPF who returns to the quorum after some years of business overseas.

Our Chairman, Brian Scroggs, G0BDS expressed the wish to stand down after three years of faithful service but as there is no natural successor at present he agreed to continue for a further term with the proposal that John Bowen, G8DET will act as Deputy-Chairman with a view of taking over at the next election.

The elected executive officers are:-

Chairman	Brian Scroggs	G0BDS
Deputy-Chairman	John Bowen	G8DET
Hon. Secretary	Gwyn Williams	G4FKH
Hon. Treasurer	Brian Thwaites	G3CVI
Membership-Secretary	Ela Martyr	G6HKM
Committee Members	Dick Brocks	G3WHR
	Chris Chapman	G0IPU
	Harry Lowe	G2HPF
	Andrew Mead	G4KQE
	Martin Final	G4TOD
	Richard Witney	G4ICP

with ex-officio members:-

President	Roy Martyr	G3PMX
Vice-President	Les Turner	G4CUT
Vice-President	John Greenwood	G3KRZ

After the tea-break the section of the AGM devoted to Matters Arising amalgamated into the Yackit with a lengthy debate into the pros and cons of having a separate equipment fund to provide more facilities for members.

This session tended to prove the cliché that "if any group is large enough all they can agree is to disagree", however, the proposal to start an equipment fund was given a majority vote with Andrew, G4KQE as fund co-ordinator and when the fund is sufficient, a separate account will be opened with the Building Society.

The decision for the use of the money, the management of equipment maintenance and depreciation was left open for further discussion.

To conclude the evening the raffles were drawn. The lucky winner of the Bumper Draw was Howard Buckenham, G3PGN who received a free membership subscription for the coming year.

COMMITTEE MEETING

The November Committee Meeting will be held in the Telford Lodge (Marconi College Residence) at 7:45pm on Wednesday, 15th November. You are most welcome to join us.

CLUB CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

This event will be held on December 16th at the Telford Lodge (Marconi Residence), at 7.30pm for 8.15pm. The Buffet Menu will consist of Assorted Canapes, Prawn Brouchees, Smoked Salmon Boats, Cocktail Pork Pies, Quiche Lorraine, Turkey Kieves, Sausage Rolls, Assorted Cocktail Sandwiches, Profiteroles Filled with Pate, Gateau, Mince Pies and Coffee. The cost will be £7.25 plus VAT per person, drinks of your choice extra from the bar. The usual car parking arrangements at the College will be available. Names and £2.50 per person (non-refundable deposit) to Gwyn G4FKH, our Secretary at the club meeting. It is advisable to make your booking as soon as possible.

This event and venue was a great success last year, do not miss it.

PROPOSED PURCHASE OF CLUB EQUIPMENT - Andrew G4KQE.

At the recent NFD sub-committee meeting it was proposed that one way to improve our league position was to have a transceiver that every operator could become familiar with in his own time before the event. It was suggested that the club purchase a suitable transceiver to be available to all members throughout the remainder of the year. By having a club rig would also solve the annual NFD problem of whose equipment to use.

The proposition was put before the committee and subsequently before the membership at the recent Annual General Meeting.

After a discussion it was decided by majority vote to try to raise funds to enable the club to purchase a suitable transceiver. Therefore if any member has any good fund-raising ideas please contact me or any other member of the committee.

Perhaps one way to raise funds is by way of donations and it is proposed to have at each monthly meeting a donation box for contributions towards the club equipment fund.

An interesting thought is that if every member put one pound coin (less than a pint of beer or 5 first class stamps or 2 Sunday newspapers) into the box each month, we could have the choice from several brand-new transceivers by this time next year.

Thank you for your support and here's looking forward to the purchase of the equipment.

MEMBERS NEWS - E1a G6HKM.

The Society extends a welcome to two new members this month they are Colin Lodge G4IIK and Philip Chapman G7FPY.

May I remind you that subscriptions are now due, inflation has not taken its toll and rates stay the same, i.e., £3.00, and £1.50 for Senior Citizens and Students. If you cannot get to the next meeting Subs may be sent to me at the address given at the end of the newsletter, cheques to be made payable to 'Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society' please.

Friday 13th was lucky for me when I had QSO's with Jeff, VK8GF and Peter VK8ZLX, both in Alice Springs on 6M.

One mans meat (or should it be womans) is another mans poison, conditions were not good on the HF bands on the 20th and 21st, but I was delighted to have a good aurora each day, working G, GM, GW, GI, EI, ON, OZ, PE and DL on 2M and G, GM, GI and PE on 6M. Contacts were also being made on 70cms, but here the doppler shift is great and copy on phone is VERY difficult but I did manage a couple of QSO's in an Aurora earlier this year.

DF NEWS - Dick G3WHR.

Part 1. THE CHELMSFORD DF TROPHY

The Chelmsford DF trophy is awarded to the competitor with the highest (best 4 out of 5) points score in our local df events.

This year our congratulations and the trophy go to Ian Butson, a Chelmsford club member. Ian was the only competitor to score points in all 5 events and emerged a clear winner by being 1st in two events - well done Ian.

1 Ian Butson	5= Philip Cunningham	9 Roy Emeny
2 Alan Williams	= Dick Brocks	10 Richard Witney
3 Andrew Mead	7= Colin Merry	
4 Andy Collett	= Peter Graves	

Part 2 - THE MID-ESSEX TROPHY

This has been a 'fine' year for DF and Sunday 15 October was no exception - a nice sunny afternoon.

Nine teams assembled near Boxford for the start - and we were pleased to welcome one team from Banbury DF Club. We had no problem hearing either station, just the decision of which one to find first.

I chose station A, G4PQY/P, and drove west to near Sudbury. A fairly shallow intercept indicated St.Yeldham, and it took two further bearings before I was parked behind Bill Pechey and had pinpointed a section of old railway track. I soon discovered the aerial stretched right across the top of a steep sided cutting to an earth stake on one side. I was soon joined by Andy Collett but there was no sign of Bill. After much bush beating I took a second look at the earth stake and found Alan Williams in a nearby bush.

My 2 o'clock bearing on Mike gave a cross near Felshamhall wood. Further bearings confirmed this as the site of G3WMM/P. The run-in was about 1km during which I met Roy - on his way out. As usual there was a large hole in some thick hedgerow which led to the hidden station, clearly I was not the first to find my second station.

Afterwards we enjoyed our usual DIY tea as guests of Pat and Mike Hawkins. When all the results were in it was announced that Bill Pechey had won. Bill is still a member of Chelmsford so he was awarded the Mid-Essex Trophy.

DF NEWS - continued

Results:-

Posn	Name	St.A	St.B	Posn	Name	St.A	St.B
1	Bill Pechey	2.33	3.43	6	Andy Collett	3.36	4.26
2	Ian Butson	3.54	2.41	7	Colin Baisden	---	3.14
3	Graham Richards	4.19	3.11	8	Roy Emeny	---	3.54
4	Andrew Mead	4.20	2.42	9	Philip Cunningham	---	4.03
5	Dick Brocks	3.13	4.21				

FUTURE EVENT

Provisionally the date will be 10th or 17th November at Colchester, more details later.

THE LEICESTER AMATEUR RADIO SHOW - E1a G6HKM.

On the recommendation of last years event being good; as soon as our son and his family had settled in Rugby, we booked a visit to combine seeing our grandchildren with a trip to the Leicester show.

We chose Friday, thinking it would be the quietest day, not so! I think everybody else had the same idea. Although it was rather crowded the atmosphere was very friendly and we had a most enjoyable time. The quality of the the displays was good and there certainly did not seem to be as much 'junk' as you get at local rallies these days.

During the day we met up with some of the "DX" members of the Chelmsford Club, Ken G4LVP (Cheltenham), Phil G0ELM (Cheshire) and Peter G4DAN, (Mistley Essex) as well as many familiar faces associated with our local emporia.

As the Granby Halls are in the centre of the city, the exhibition talk-in stations were invaluable. We used 70cm, SU21, and the operator, Nev, guided us with in-depth knowledge from the outskirts to a nearby FREE! car-park, however, it turned out to be quite a walk to the Halls, not too bad on the way in but after 4 hours on the hoof, the return came rather hard, still this was soon forgotten when Nev was on hand again to talk us out through the rush-hour, his tips certainly led us away from the worst jams, until we were well on our return to Rugby.

We thoroughly enjoyed the event, why not try it next year.

YOUR NEWSLETTER

We have not received much input recently, such as letters to the editor, etc. The winter months are usually quiet as regards topical events so any contributions from members will be appreciated.

73 from Roy & Ela Martyr, G3PMX & G6HKM

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MEMBERS ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

The back page of this Newsletter contains a list of items available from Paul Tittensor

VERY USEFUL

At the next club meeting, DIARIES for 1990 will be on sale, there are two sizes, desk and pocket, both contain useful, up-to-date Amateur Radio information.

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE

Many thanks to all those who offered 3 pin valve holders in response to my request last month. I was pleasantly surprised to know how many had been saved from WW2 and I now have enough to satisfy my immediate needs.

Roy, G3PMX.

FOR SALE:

1. PYE EQUIPMENT.
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PYE AM27 70 MHZ BASE STATION (QQV06-40 P.A.) + MANUAL + FOLDED DIPOLE ANTENNA	£35
PYE CAMBRIDGE 144.8 MHZ AM RIG	£20
PYE WESTMINSTER + MANUAL (WORKING)	£20
PYE WESTMINSTER + MANUAL (NOT WORKING)	£15
PYE VANGUARD (QQV03-20 P.A.) + MANUAL	£20
PAIR OF XTALS TO CONVERT AM27 OR WESTMINSTER TO 70.26 MHZ	£ 5
15 MISC PYE PLUG-IN PCBs (FM IFs ETC)	EACH £ 5

2. MICROWAVE COMPONENTS.
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WG16 ISOLATOR	£ 5
WG16 CIRCULATOR	£ 5
MISC. X-BAND KLYSTRONS (SOLD AS SEEN - NOT GUARANTEED WORKING !)	EACH £ 5
EMI KLYSTRONS TYPE NOS : X467R5222 (2 OFF)	
X467R5962 (OUTPUT LOW)	
X467R9525	
X467R9689/1	
X467R9616	
CV2116 (2 OFF)	
CV2346	
CV2221 (V235A/1K) (6 OFF)	
CV234 (V230A/1K)	
(V239C/1K)	

3. MISCELLANEOUS.
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-MUIRHEAD D-801-D VOLTAGE DIVIDING RESISTANCE (0-10K)	£ 5
-SOLARTRON CD1183 DUAL BEAM CRO AND PSU WITH ADDITIONAL PLUG-IN (WORKING BUT WITH DAMAGED SWITCH)	£ 30
-STC SIGNAL GENERATOR TYPE 74330G (300-3400kHz)	£ 10
-BOONTON Q-METER (20-260MHz)	£ 10
-ex-USAF CRO NEEDS 115V PSU (WORKING)	£ 10
-BBC MODEL B 32K MICROCOMPUTER (ISSUE 7) WITH MANUAL (IN ORIGINAL BOX)	£120
-TRAILER TOWER. FOR TOWING STOWS HORIZONTALLY (21 FEET LONG). EXTENDS TO 72 FEET. TOWER IS EX-ROOFING WINCH AND IS ROUGHLY THE SAME CROSS-SECTION AS A LADDER. THE TOWER HAS BEEN STORED OUTSIDE FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND SO NEEDS SOME RESTORATION.	OFFERS?

IF INTERESTED:
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CONTACT PAUL TITTENSOR (G4PVM) ON CHELMSFORD 267257 (EVENINGS)

OR CHELMSFORD 73331x3589 (DAYTIME)