

# Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society.

NEWSLETTER No.289

February 1990

## **NEXT MEETING - Humorous Debate.**

We all have our own views on controversial subjects but rarely have the opportunity to express them to our friends.

Following the example set by other clubs, we are arranging an evening devoted to debating subjects related to the administration of Amateur Radio.

Members of the committee have proposed the following subjects for the Chairman to present to the house :-

- "Do we need the RSGB?"
- "How many classes of licence for UK Amateurs?"
- "20 years hence, ham or no ham?"
- "What turns Hams off?"
- "Repeaters, good or bad?"

Time may not permit discussion on all these subjects, if not there will be some for another occasion, however, you have advance notice of the titles and we look forward to hearing your point of view on the 6th February.

The meeting starts at 7.30pm at The Marconi College, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.**

- 6 Feb. CLUB MEETING - Humorous Debate.
- 25 Feb. SPECIAL EVENT STATION - Scouts Centre, Springfield.
- 6 March CLUB MEETING - 160 Metre Direction Finding, G3WHR.
- 3 April CLUB MEETING - Aerials for Restricted Sites, G3XAP.

## **SPECIAL EVENT STATION - Gwyn, G4FKH.**

A special event station (callsign to be confirmed) is to be set up by Gwyn G4FKH and Richard G4ICP on the 25th February 1990 at Scouts Centre, Lawn Lane, Springfield.

The station is being arranged to assist the local Girl Guides with their "Thinking Day". We will be on site from 10.00am and on the air, hopefully from 11.00am.

All are welcome to take a look-see or to operate the rig (if the Guides don't hog it).

## **LAST MONTHS MEETING - ANNUAL FILM & VIDEO EVENING - Brian, G0BDS.**

Last month saw 30 members gathered for this annual event, all looking forward to the planned programme:- "HF Field day 1989", "The Faraday lecture 1989", "DX HF Contest operating" and a video on loan from Waters & Stanton "GB5BN operating QRP from the top of Ben Nevis in 1989".

First of the bunch was an excellent 8mm super cine film shot at CARS Field day site, by Andrew, G4KQE. All the work needed to set up the station, like tents, mast and aerials, was evident on the film, along with commentary by Andrew. Also included was film of the local wildlife in the form of two blue-tits nesting quite unperturbed in the old farm equipment near one of the mast guy stakes. As always this film brings back fond memories of the event where we all enjoyed ourselves so much.

Next came a superb video, one of the best we have ever shown entitled "Sight and Sound" which was given by the BBC as the Faraday Lecture 1989 by two professional TV production engineers. In it they gave an audio/visual demonstration of the reasoning behind and the way in which we use the old and new methods of AM, FM stereo and digital sound techniques with demonstrations of how the new TV picture improvements are being developed within the limited radio spectrum available. The involvement of computer technology in the production of these developments was clearly seen and one of the presenter's closing comments "with electronic technology advancing at such a pace, nobody will predict what will be available more than two years ahead", summed up the presentation.

The third and as it turned out final video, "N2AA preparing for and operating the 1981 DX HF contest" caused many a light-hearted comment to come from the audience. The QTH belonged to N2OJT, a multi-millionaire, who financed most of the multi-operator station and its aerial farm. They had such things as 195ft. towers with 4 element 80 metre beams and a 'SHACK' that looked like NASA control at Houston Space Centre. One mast and beam they had erected cost \$12,000 and lasted five weeks (after all they were 1000ft ASL and on a very exposed position). All the logging was done manually and at the final tally when they compared their claimed score with that of their known closest rival they had well over a million points, but were still less than the other station. Never mind, perhaps they had better luck the following year.

Well, that was the 1990 film and video evening, and although we didn't have time to show the Ben Nevis video, I am sure that all present thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

## **SILENT KEY.**

The Society records with regret the death of Peter Wort, G3SFR, at the age of 43.

Although Peter was not a club member, mainly due to his distant home location at Halstead, he will be remembered for his operating assistance in Field Day during the early days at the Blackmore site.

#### IN MEMORIAM.

The Society records with regret the death of Doris Ager, wife of club member Ron, G2AGY on 15th January.

A message of sympathy on behalf of all the members has been sent to Ron and his family.

#### CALLSIGN FOR OUR SOCIETY.

The callsign G0MMWT which was reserved with the Radio Amateur Licencing Unit in September 1988 is about to be released to us.

It has been a long and patient period of waiting for this historic event, mainly caused by the general slow down in new recruits joining the hobby, however, according to the RSGB News Broadcast last week, calls in the series G0MMW- are being issued and soon we will be able to have our own identity.

We expect the first use will be for the regular Tuesday evening Net, organised by Gwyn, G4FKH on 28.325MHz at 8.30pm (local time).

This will be a nice shiny new call for your logbook and we expect that the next step will be a QSL card for the Society . . . . now there's a challenge!

#### THE CLUB EQUIPMENT FUND.

To accelerate the fund it has been proposed to hold a series of mini-auctions from items donated to the club during the past few weeks.

The stock comprises ancient and modern items ranging from diecast boxes to old radios, valves and books.

We hope that members will make some desirable purchases and that the revenue will help to swell the fund.

Some of these items were kindly donated by the family of the late G3SVQ, who until recently lived at Baddow. For many years Edwin was the operator of the rare Gibraltar station ZB2I.

The model transceiver collection box is still in operation and will be in a prominent position at all our meetings.

If members have any more fund-raising ideas please contact any committee member with your suggestions.

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

#### COMMITTEE MEETING.

The February Committee Meeting will be held in the Telford Lodge (Marconi College Residence) at 7:30pm on Wednesday, 14th February. You are most welcome to join us.

73 from Roy & Ela Martyr, G3PMX & G6HKM

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### MEMBERS ADVERTISEMENTS

#### FOR SALE

YAESU FT790R 70cm: v.g.c. boxed with up/down shift on speaker/mic £250.

YAESU FT225RD 2mtr: with handbook £500.

TONO 100W 2mtr: Lin: Amp: £75.

MICROWAVE MODULES 100W 2mtr: Lin: Amp: £90.

ALINCO 25W 70cm: lin: amp: £90.

TRIO 2200G c/w handbook £80.

LUCAS 10mtr: FM (conversion) £35.

AERIALS (buyer dismantles, tools etc: available.)

Q-D 2mtr: 15 element c/w 50-60ft of coax cable and STOLLE rotator and pole £100.

2mtr: 8 by 8 element and 70cm: 19 element beams c/w approx: 100ft coax cable and

IWASAKA rotator and pole £100.

Contact Colin, G4CDM, Dartford (0322) 523729.

#### FOR SALE

HOWES COMMUNICATIONS HC220 2mtr: to 20mtr: transverter £45.

MET 3 element 6mtr: antenna in good condition £15.

Discone antenna (50-500MHz) never used £15.

DATONG RF speech clipper £15.

Christopher, G0IPU tel. (0245) 269207.