

Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society.

NEWSLETTER No. 301

Callsign G0MWT

February 1991

NEXT MEETING - Installing Mobiles.

Our guest speaker on Tuesday 5th February is Tom Crosbie, G6PZZ, of Navico Limited.

In his letter of introduction Tom says that although he has given a number of lectures to Radio Clubs in the UK, this will be the first in Essex.

The subjects covered will include, design philosophy of mobile transceivers, selection of antennas, tricks of installation in modern cars and the evening will include a hands-on demonstration of Navico units.

We look forward to an interesting meeting, starting at 7.30pm in The Marconi College, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

- 5 Feb. CLUB MEETING - "Installing Mobiles" - details above.
- 16 Feb. OPEN DAY AT ARROW RADIO, Hatfield Peverel, 10am to 5pm.
- 24 Feb. EAST COAST AMATEUR RADIO & COMPUTER RALLY - Vista Road, Clacton-on-Sea.
- 5 March CLUB MEETING - At the Emergency Planning Section, County Hall, Chelmsford.
- 9/10 March LONDON AMATEUR RADIO SHOW - Picketts Lock Centre, Edmonton.
- 24 March VHF CONVENTION - Sandown Exhibition Centre, Esher, Surrey.
- 2 April CLUB MEETING - The Radiocommunication Agency - by Mr J.C. Taylor.
- 27/28 April RSGB NATIONAL CONVENTION - NEC Birmingham.

REPORT OF LAST MONTHS MEETING - Harry G2HPF.

The first video of the evening was made by Milton Haines, W5QCP, a friend of Albert, G0AEH. It started off by introducing the family and then there were shots of the tower and the antennae and the shack. Most impressive were the shots of the Christmas decorations in the garden at night. There must have been several kilowatts of power in the thousands of lights and it is not surprising he won the street award for his efforts.

The second video was a Hancock classic about GLK London. Replacing valves, the first QSO was with Yoko who told us that "it is raining not in Tokyo".

Fraternal greeting from HBX in Belgrade was followed by Kings Pawn to Queens Bishop 3, the latest move in the chess game.

B45 Malaya sent your sixpence and up sixpence. This was too much for Tony, so he said he would see him, and got beaten by a full house. Total loss now being 12/6, Tony said he would settle by sending a bread pudding.

Harry, CX3 in Birmingham exchanged the latest move in a game of snakes and ladders, and was asked to QSP a message to Tonys mother ref the making of the bread pudding.

After a short break and a draw on a dreadnought (1/9 for 20!) he went on the air again for the main event of the evening which was the distress call from a yacht off Sierra Leone. Everything went wrong, broken pencils, shilling in the electric running out, calls from irate neighbours with BCI, and finally the tubes in the rig blowing up.

The following day a report in the newspaper stated that the lives of the people on the sinking boat had been saved by helicopter, after the SOS had been picked up by the much despised Yoko in Tokyo.

The next video was Japanese Morse, an amateur production of a lecture given by Norman Kendrick, G3CSG of Wirral. We only had time to show 10 minutes of the 1 hour 20 min: tape but during that time it was shown both the complexity of the system that the allies were required to learn and the humorous way in which the subject could be delivered.

This tape is available for general release by contacting our Secretary Gwyn, G4FKH.

After the tea-break Roy, G3PMX showed us a selection of 35mm slides taken during his 1990 visit to Backnang. As well as shots taken in the surrounding districts of Rietenau, Aspach and Schwabisch Hall, the radio stations of Peter DK7SP and Alouis DL3PD were seen.

The slides served as an introduction to the third video of the evening which showed the operation of the 23cm television repeater constructed by amateurs in the Backnang area.

Unfortunately we were only able to see part of this video due to the quality being impaired by damage to the tape, which we suspect was incurred during customs clearance and as it was only received in Chelmsford that morning there was no chance of remedial action!

Our thanks to Les G4CUT for his Video Engineering throughout the evening.

THINKING AHEAD.

In preparation for the April meeting we have been requested by the Radio Investigation Service to submit in advance any questions that members wish to ask on unusual subjects, so that the answers can be researched for accuracy.

We recognise that the control of the radio spectrum covers a vast range of subjects and consider this to be an objective request.

Questions should be addressed to our secretary Gwyn for forwarding.

PLANNING AHEAD.

If there is sufficient interest, the committee are prepared to organise a coach party to the RSGB Exhibition at the NEC Birmingham on Saturday 27th April.

The invitation is open to anyone within easy reach of our usual starting point at the Writtle duck pond and the start time is 8.00am.

The cost of a 45 seater luxury coach is £250, so if we can fill 30+ seats the cost compares favourably with travelling by car also there are advantages in the social atmosphere of the day out and not having to face the long drive home after legging it round the exhibition hall.

We will be testing reaction at the February meeting, if you cannot attend but would like to join the NEC trip please let us know by other means also spread the word around to all local stations.

MEMBERS NEWS.

The Society extends a welcome to Stan Dodd who is a SWL. We now have 72 paid-up members in the Society and the full list of names will appear on the notice board in the near future.

OBITUARY.

It is with deep regret that we report the death of Angela Stewart on Christmas day as the result of a tragic motoring accident.

The committee have kind memories of her assistance with meetings and social events at Telford Lodge and have expressed their sympathy to her husband and family.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Roy,

A contribution for the Newsletter or your WPB, as you wish!

1991 marks the hundredth anniversary of the coherer, which I believe was the first detector used for wireless. Hertz did make a wireless transmission 12 years earlier, but his detector was a spark gap, which I don't think qualifies. As some of our younger members (those under about 70!) may not have used a coherer, how about a competition for CARS members to make a working coherer to be demonstrated at a meeting during 1991?

Yours sincerely, Harry R. Heap, G5HF.

ERRATA.

A note from Charles, G0GJS regarding his report on WARC 92 published in Newsletter 300. Something suffered in the translation between lecturer and scribe.....my apologies! The comment against MLS should read that footnote 897B relates to applications by interested countries in more utilisation of the 100MHz band allocated against the 5.25GHz for MLS.

VALVE BANK.

Following the scrummage for old surplus valves at the January meeting, Harry, G2HPF collected the left-overs to add to his stock-pile.

Harry has requested to let it be known that he is compiling a stock list on his computer to be displayed on the club notice board for the benefit of members who may be in need of the odd replacement valve. Terms are very reasonable, i.e. a small donation to the equipment fund.....thanks Harry.

A CAUTIONARY TALE.

For some time there has been a standing joke regarding the apparently high proportion of raffle tickets drawn for members of the committee!

At the last meeting, the first ticket out of the hat was not claimed and after repeated calls the number was set aside for another ticket to be drawn.

No further thought was given to the matter until the following Wednesday when a member of the committee confessed that his jacket pocket reserved for raffle tickets had not been cleared recently and that during the last draw he had referred to an old strip of tickets in the wrong colour while the winning ticket was still in his pocket!!!

COMMITTEE MEETING.

The February Committee Meeting will be held in the Telford Lodge (Marconi College Residence) at 7:30pm on Wednesday, 13th February. You are most welcome to join us.

73 from Roy & Ela Martyr, G3PMX & G6HKM

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