



## The ANNUAL JUNK SALE

This popular annual event will take place at 7.30pm on Tuesday 3rd November in the Marconi College, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford. The meeting provides the opportunity for members to bid for bargains as well as turning some ``no longer required'' items into cash to fund ``urgently wanted'' goodies.

Our auctioneer will again be Gwyn, G4FKH who has requested that items for sale should be accompanied with a label bearing the vendors name and any reserve price. The sale is designed to top-up Club funds, either from the 10% commission charged on all transactions or from the sale of items specifically donated for the funds. Our Treasurer Brian, G3CVI has requested that bid increments should not be smaller than 10p to simplify the cash flow, he will be ably assisted by two ``runners'' volunteered from the committee.

We hope there will be a ``good turn-out'' and some interesting humour in the process.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 3 Nov. CLUB MEETING - Annual Junk Sale.
- 13 Nov. DF EVENT - Last 92 Colchester grope in the dark.
- 1 Dec. MEETING - Shack Test Equipment - Fred, G2HNF.
- 12 Dec. C.A.R.S. CHRISTMAS SOCIAL - Hatfield Peverel.
- 13 Dec. VERULAM A.R.C. CHRISTMAS RALLY.

### SILENT KEY

It is with great sadness that we record the passing of Albert, G'Nought' AEH on 11th October at the age of 80 years.

Throughout his life Albert always had an interest in electronics; as a youngster in Leyton he built equipment to monitor Baird's early Television broadcasts, this developed into the hobby of TV and Radio repairs which he used to good effect as a source of income after he retired at the age of 55 from Warley Hospital where he was foreman electrician for 30 years.

His enquiring mind led to him taking a course in seamanship and navigation, even though he never got round to using these skills and also a course in lip-reading, just in case it was needed in later life.

First licensed as G1GHL in June 1984 he rapidly progressed to become G Nought Albert Edward Hill 5 months later.

After his visit to Texas in 1988 he had many weekly skeds with friends made at the San Antonio Radio Club. During the past two years Albert had taken an interest and put together a RTTY/AMTOR capability, also he had been actively lobbying the RSGB to partition the DTI to allow Phone Patch Traffic for UK Amateurs.

Albert spent the last two weeks of his life in Ongar War Memorial Hospital, where he died peacefully.

CARS was well represented by twelve fellow amateurs and friends at the funeral and a floral tribute was sent on behalf of the Society.



Daughter Sally, son-in-law Brian (G0BDS) and family would sincerely like to thank everyone for their kind wishes of sympathy in the loss of their very dear father, and for the help and friendship given to Albert during the years he was a member of CARS.

### COMMITTEE MEETING

The November Committee meeting will be held in the Telford Lodge at 7.30pm on Wednesday 11th November, you are most welcome to join us.

### WATCH OUT - THERE'S A STORM ABOUT!

We can all learn from the unfortunate and dramatic experience suffered by Charles, G0GJS during the severe electrical storm which hit Chelmsford on the morning of Tuesday 20th October.

A large lightning strike to ground next door to Charles's house induced a heavy current in the 65ft of coaxial cable to the HF loop antenna which transferred through his amateur radio station into the earth wiring throughout the house mains electric system.

In microseconds an immense amount of damage was caused to the loop antenna, loop controller, transceiver, power supplies, house electrical wiring and not least the central heating control system.

**Lesson - when a storm is imminent, disconnect all antennas, including rotators and unplug the mains in the shack!**

### MEMBERS NEWS - Ela G6HKM

The Society extends a welcome to two new members this month, Paul Strudwick, G8CDB and Lawrie Dunn, a S.W.L.

If you did not renew your subscription at the A.G.M. this is now due; please renew at the next meeting or send to me at the address at the end of this Newsletter. Please make cheques payable to:-

``Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society''.

(See ``Last Months Meeting'' regarding Concessionary rates.)

### CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

It's not too late to book for the Christmas Social, there are still a few places available. If a deposit has already been paid, Harry, G2HPF requests payment of the balance which is due at or by the next meeting please. If you require more information about the event Harry will show you the menu.

### HELP REQUIRED

In the latest edition of RadCom there is quite a variety of items for sale in the RSGB Book Case. Over the last few months there has been a change in their postal charges, these are now extra rather than an all in price, this makes the purchase of items expensive, for instance the new RSGB Call Book 1993 is available at a cost of £7.00 to members plus £2.00 postage and packing.

Does anybody, during the course of their travels, go to Potters Bar, if so would they be prepared to take orders and cash and collect items for members? Many years ago when the RSGB were in London, John, G8DET used to take block orders for Call Books and collect on behalf of CARS. Any offers please?

### THE CLUB 10 METRE NET

The 28.325MHz SSB net, which is held at 8.30pm on the Tuesday's between club meetings is still available for members to exchange news and views. (much better than that old TV!)

## LAST MONTHS MEETING

### The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Charles G0GJS

The meeting was opened by the Chairman John, G8DET. The Agenda was displayed to the meeting by overhead projector. An apology for absence was received on behalf of Albert, G0AEH.

The Minutes of the 1991 Annual General Meeting were read by the Secretary Gwyn, G4FKH and their acceptance as a true record of events was supported unanimously by the Members.

The Chairman presented his report. John spoke of the great pleasure that the office had given him during his term and was particularly grateful for the excellent backup that he had received from the committee. John had special praise for the efforts of those members who took part in national and local D/F competitions where members have had outstanding success and also for all those who took part in NFD.

The Secretary presented his report. Gwyn, G4FKH commented on the excellent quality of the talks from both the membership and visiting speakers. He said that the membership should be aware of the work necessary to arrange meetings of such high calibre. Gwyn advised that lectures for six months of next year have already been arranged. He invited members under the AOB agenda to make suggestions for subjects that they would like to be scheduled.

Our Treasurer Brian, G3CVI presented his report; copies of the Cash Account sheet were handed out and his statement that we were solvent and there was no need to increase the subscriptions for 1993, was greeted by the Members with gratitude and approval.

Ela, G6HKM our Membership Secretary presented her report and said that our membership was increasing and currently stood at 59 'A' Class, 15 'B' Class and 4 SWL although no differentiation was intended or recognised! Ela reminded the meeting that the membership fee stood at £4 with a reduction to £3 for students and senior citizens. Ela suggested that the Club could consider that the concessionary rate be applied to any member who is unemployed should they so desire - this motion was subsequently approved.

Our President Roy, G3PMX commenced his report by saying how pleasant he found the occasion of this particular AGM with such a large number of members present. It had been a cracking year for CARS and a vote of thanks was due to the Committee for their efforts. A slight restructuring had taken place when John Chandler decided to stand down and we had welcomed Geoff Lovegrove to the Committee. Roy said that the Club means a lot of things to many people but fundamentally, the making of friendships was most apparent and this is really why the Society was in business.

The President then retired the Committee saying that all members had expressed the wish to be re-elected should the members so desire. Geoff, G3EDM proposed and Geoff, G2AMQ seconded the motion that the 1992 Committee be re-elected en bloc. The motion was carried unanimously.

The 'NEW' Chairman returned to conduct A.O.B.

The Social Secretary Harry, G2HPF made a brief report to the meeting concerning the Christmas Dinner. He said that the November meeting was the last opportunity to reserve tickets - some 16 seats remain to be filled.

Dick, G3WHR gave a presentation on D/F competition successes and proudly announced that Andy Collett has won this years National Final, he also won the Rose Bowl Trophy for overall outstanding DF hunting.

Charles, G0GJS gave a talk on the HF and IOTA Convention at Beaumont, Old Windsor. Details were given of the NFD result where CARS this year moved up to 16th position.

A vote for the CARS Amateur of the Year was held and Gwyn, G4FKH was awarded the plaque for 1992 for his outstanding services to amateur radio in general and our Club in particular.

The Chairman thanked the runner-up Fred, G2HNF for his continued assistance to Club members and for his much valued advice in problem solving.

Suggestions were made from the floor for further Club activities and talks. The Chairman promised that the requests would be discussed in committee.

The jackpot raffle prize of free membership for a year was won by David, G7HFC.

Question time included problems with pre-formatted 5 1/4" floppy discs purchased at a rally? How to recharge a notebook computer in Third World countries with unreliable mains supplies? and a request for help in using graticule engraved binoculars in a range finding mode?, was skillfully answered by Fred, G2HNF.

## DF NEWS - Dick G3WHR

The last Chelmsford event took place on 18th September with Richard Witney as the hidden station. This late in the year it was soon dark but good signals meant that the five teams soon converged on a wood near West Bergholt. Here I met Andrew and we set off down the nearest footpath. With no direct path to the station I began to make my way through the undergrowth but soon blundered into the thickest undergrowth I have found all season. It slowed my progress to a crawl, but I could still hear Andrew nearby and he didn't seem to be going any faster. When the going gets tough the tough get going, but the clever find an alternative route. As 9.00 approached it was really frustrating to hear that Andrew and I were the only teams who had not found the transmitter. At 9.00 I wasn't even close and the undergrowth seemed higher than ever. Andrew finally broke through but I had to be rescued by a search party.

Results:	3. Philip Cunningham 8.58
1. Mike Hawkins 8.35	4. Andrew Mead 9.00
2. Peter Larbalestier 8.57	5. Dick Brocks 9.10

The Chelmsford Trophy was reduced to four events this year so all the events counted towards the final score. Congratulations to our winner this year, Mike Hawkins. I hope Mike will be able to attend our next meeting to receive the Trophy.

Results:	5 = Peter Graves 9
1 Mike Hawkins 19	5 = Andrew Mead 9
2 Dick Brocks 15	5 = Andy Collett 9
3 Philip Cunningham 14	8 Richard Witney 8
4 Peter Larbalestier 12	9 Roy Emeny 2

## RSGB INTERNATIONAL HF & IOTA CONVENTION

*Charles, G0GJS and his wife attended this event and has kindly provided a detailed report for publication in installments - Ed.*

The 1992 convention had a new venue. A very large baronial hall in 50 acres once the home of Warren Hastings a former Governor of India and then a Jesuit College from 1864 until it became ICL's management training centre in the '60s. Located at Old Windsor near Runnymede it provided good food, good accommodation, comprehensive indoor and outdoor sporting facilities and a marvellous atmosphere. Some 350 people including amateurs from 30 DXCC countries, visited the Beaumont over the weekend 25/27 September. As DXNewsheet remarked, 'the camaraderie between island chasers (the Islands On The Air fraternity) and activators was so warm and sincere that it caught the attention of and was commented on by those not yet drawn into the island circle'.

IOTA was started four years ago by a UK shortwave listener and grew with such international popularity that the RSGB HF Committee appointed a fulltime (unpaid!) director namely Roger Balister G3KMA. More than 450 islands worldwide have been currently activated and recognised (by the IOTA Committee) and more are added on a regular basis.

(continued next month)

73 from Roy & Ela Martyr, G3PMX & G6HKM

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