Chelmsford Amateur Kadio Society

Club Station Call Sign GØMWT



Issue Number 334

November 1993

The ANNUAL JUNK SALE

This popular event will take place at 7.30pm on Tuesday 2nd November in the Marconi College, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford. The meeting provides the opportunity for members to bid for bargains as well as turning some "spare" items into cash to fund "wanted" goodies.

Our auctioneer will again be Gwyn, G4FKH who has requested that items for sale should be accompanied with a label bearing the sellers 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 to the club. Our Treasurer Brian, G3CVI requests 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 feel sure that it will be supported by some amusing humour.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2 Nov. CLUB MEETING - Annual Junk Sale.
12 Nov. DF EVENT - Last '93 Colchester grope in the dark.
4 Dec. C.A.R.S. CHRISTMAS DINNER - Marconi College.
7 Dec. CLUB MEETING - Radiation Hazards - R. Kitchen.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Where does the time go to, yes, it's time to make bookings for our Annual Christmas get-together on Saturday December 4th. This year we have a change of venue, nobody will have a problem finding the QTH, it is the Marconi College, we have a newly fitted out Dining Room for our exclusive use, loads of 'elbow room', our choice of table lay-out and Bar facilities, there is no limit on numbers, the more the merrier, who could wish for more?

We will meet in the Bar at Telford Lodge (ex Marconi residence) at 7.30p.m. then cross over to the Dining room for the dinner at 8.00p.m.

The Menu will be:-

Soup or chilled fruit juice Roast Turkey served with stuffing, rolls of bacon and Chipolata, Roast potatoes Selection of seasonal vegetables

Christmas Pudding served with Brandy Sauce or Fruit Trifle

Mince Pies

Tea or Coffee

Harry Lowe, G2HPF, (0245)467584 our Social Secretary will be pleased to take names and payments of £12.50 per person. Bookings to be made by November 26th, so that we can inform the College of the final number, unfortunately after this date it will not be possible to make refunds. N.B. THE NOVEMBER MEETING WILL BE THE ONLY CLUB MEETING BEFORE THE EVENT.

COMMITTEE MEETING

The November Committee meeting will be held in the Telford Lodge at 7.30pm on Wednesday 10th November, you are welcome to join us.

MEMBERS NEWS - Ela, G6HKM

We are pleased to welcome two new members this month, they are Dave Grant, G4EZK and Fred Wright G6FXM.

Congratulations to Ken Whittle who has passed the R.A.E., his callsign is G7RFT.

REMAP - Colin, GOTRM

Have you heard about REMAP?. It is a voluntary organisation which aims to help people to perform tasks with which they would normally have great difficulty or could not do at all.

REMAP members design and produce specialist mechanical and electrical aids on a mainly one off basis.

Country wide groups run on properly organised lines meet periodically to discuss the particular needs and requests of people or groups in the area, and then to design and make a very wide range of items. These items ranging from say a very simple book support or reading aid to a complete lifting mechanism for raising a wheel chair high enough to enter a caravan or coach.

New members with mechanical or electrical skills and enthusiasm to help others are always welcome to join the local groups. Many people with or with out home workshops are often very keen to expand their skills and creative abilities to the benifit of others.

If you would like to know more about the organisation and its work then contact Colin G0TRM who would be very happy to show you a Yearbook or put you in touch with Doug Adams, Chairman of the Essex (Central) Panel.

SUBSCRIPTIONS - Ela, G6HKM

A reminder that subscriptions are due again, thank you to all members who renewed at the AGM. As mentioned later in the Newsletter subscription rates have been increased, they are now £5 and the Concessionary rate is £4. If you are not able to attend the next meeting you may renew by post, cheques to be made payable to "Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society", your new membership card will then be sent to you with your next newsletter.

DF News - Dick, G3WHR - The Chelmsford Trophy.

The Chelmsford Trophy is awarded to the competitor with the highest points score from any 4 of the 5 Chelmsford events. It was a close contest which went right up to the final event. Our congratulations go to Philip Cunningham from Colchester. I hope Philip will be able to attend our next club meeting to receive the Trophy.

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Results		Points		F	oints
1.	Philip Cunningham	a 22	7 .	Ian Butson	8
2.	Andrew Mead	20	8.	Peter Larbalestier	7
3.	Roy Emeny	18	9.	Mike Hawkins	6
4.	Dick Brocks	15	10.	Peter Graves	1
5=.	Richard Witney	9			
5=.	Daphne Mead	9			

REPORT - The 1993 A.G.M. - Charles, G0GJS

The meeting was opened by the Chairman John G8DET, who among the general announcements gave details of the Jackpot Raffle - a year's free membership. The occasion also marked the award of the plaque to the CARS Amateur of the Year which this year was presented to Fred G2HNF for his concern and assistance to many Club members.

The Agenda for the 1993 AGM was displayed on a view-foil to the 43 members present. It covered the reading of the Minutes of the 1992 AGM, the reports of the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary and the President, plus the retirement of the existing Committee and the election of a new 1993/94 Committee. Matters arising, the setting of subscriptions for 1993/4 and AOB completed the agenda.

The Chairman introduced the Committee and thanked them for their efforts throughout a very successful year. He gave particular thanks and congratulations to Roy G3PMX for his excellent work in producing a very fine Newsletter. His remarks covered the outstanding lecture season, the fact that CARS is a Radio <u>Social</u> Club and he invited ideas to make the Club even more enjoyable.

The Secretary Gwyn G4FKH gave a concise report which highlighted the work of the Committee in filling all Lecture/Event slots through 1993 and 11 of the months of 1994, pointing out that this was a record. He gave details of the arrangements behind the events and explained why 'Formula 1' was a "no go". Gwyn said that he would be retiring as Secretary of CARS for business reasons.

Our Treasurer Brian G3CVI presented the Accounts which were unanimously accepted. In depicting a trend in the increase of expenditure he thought that a slight increase in subscriptions was in order. This was debated under a later agenda item. Brian posted a list of the Club's assets on the noticeboard. Dennis G4VGS requested clarification of the repair that was carried out to the Club rig. Roy G3PMX gave details of the work carried out by Bob to the digital tuning control.

Ela, G6HKM our membership secretary reported that we had 80 members comprising 57 class "A", 14 class "B" and 9 SWL's which was the highest level for ten years. Regrettably, Albert G'Nought'AEH and Ron G2AGY are now silent keys.

Our President Roy, G3PMX commenced by observing that it had been a very hard working year for the Committee, but success had brought its reward to members by way of the personal satisfaction which they achieved in working for the wellbeing of the CARS membership. Roy made particular reference to NFD and the Club effort which was put into the event by all concerned. He thanked Daphne G8WQZ and all the other ladies that provided sustenance throughout the event. On the technical side, there were still improvements to be made to our NFD, particularly concerning antennas. Roy said that he had been involved in quite considerable electronic work throughout the year and his attention to Desk Top Publishing also featured very high in his many activities. He said that he was still perfecting the microphone system. Roy reminded us that the College venue should not be taken for granted and explained some of his PR work on behalf of the Club. It is most important that we supported the College as much as possible.

John, G8DET formally retired the 1993 Committee. Roy displayed a list of the retiring Committee and proposed a special vote of thanks to Gwyn, G4FKH who had been Secretary for the past five years and had carried out excellent work. Our President then said that the procedure for the election of the new committee would differ from previous years and asked for bearance. He set the stage by reading a "RADCOM" letter by Roger Frisby entitled "Acting Unpaid" in the Sept.93 issue, which covered the relationship between radio club members and their committees. Roy then gave some details of a letter expressing dissatisfaction which had been sent to each member of the Committee by a club member who claimed that his views were shared by others although he would not name them. The member concerned attended our September committee meeting which did not result in a satisfactory outcome. As a consequence the old committee would not seek re-election unless a Vote of Confidence was obtained from the members. Ron, G5XV proposed and Les, G4CUT seconded a motion of confidence; it was unanimously supported by CARS members - there were no abstainers. The member who wrote the letters of complaint did not attend the AGM.

Roy then invited members to stand for the various offices and as a consequence presented individuals for election. Full details of the proposers and seconders are contained in the Minutes of the AGM. All the elected Committee members received unanimous support.

Your new Committee comprises John G8DET - Chairman, Charles G0GJS - Secretary, Brian G3CVI - Treasurer, Ela G6HKM - Membership Secretary, Andrew G4KQE - Vice Chairman, Harry G2HPF - Social Secretary, Jeff G7KLV - Librarian and Chris G0IPU - Venue Organiser.

Two further positions remained to be filled and nominations were invited. Colin Page, GOTRM was proposed by Les, G4CUT and seconded by John, G8DET, the other vacancy was left open.

John, G8DET thanked the President for his role in electing the new Committee not forgetting the able support given by the Vice-Presidents Les, G4CUT and Dick, G3WHR. Finally, it was proposed, following debate, that the new subscription rate should be set at £5 and £4 (concessions).

A.O.B.

- 1) The Jackpot Raffle was won by Chris GOIPU.
- Geoff G2AMQ proposed a vote of thanks to the tea ladies; their presence was requested and they were given a warm welcome.
 - 3) Roy requested articles for the NewsLetter.
- 4) A proposed visit to the RSGB/NEC was debated, but no real interest was revealed. Slight interest was shown in the Leicester Show.
- 5) Brian G3CVI gave details of a second visit to Stansted early in 1994 and invited names. The list is limited to 12.

The AGM closed at 2150 hours. A technical forum followed.

DF News - Dick, G3WHR

The Mid-Essex Trophy - Sunday 17th October.

In 1992 we made the decision that henceforth the Mid Essex Trophy would be an open event with the Trophy being awarded to the winner. Mike Hawkins prepared some information handouts which were distributed at the National DF Final, but the only team to take up the challenge was George Whenham, who also attended last year.

We returned to our regular - Long Melford Green, where Pat Hawkins acted as our starter. She gave me form No 1, which was a good omen - I needed a confidence booster following my disasterous performance in the previous two local events.

The two hidden stations were provided by Alan Williams and Mike Hawkins. Both signals were received at the start, giving bearings to the NE and SE.

Alan was a particularly strong signal so I decided to investigate the old railway track near Lavenham, about 4Km from the start. There, in the railway walk car park, I made a discovery - a Volvo car which I was pretty sure belonged to Alan - the give away was a construction industry white helmet. Now the problem was - how far down the track was Alan. The start bearing ran along the length of the track so I decided to move to a nearby point where I could obtain a cross bearing. There were still 15 minutes to the next transmission so I turned on the car radio and got out a book to read. The 2 o'clock transmission was very strong, which confirmed my good fortune and gave me the distance to run down the track. It's not easy to judge distance when running through a railway cutting and I ended up short of the hidden station when the next transmission came on. My initial advantage was lost when other teams appeared and joined in the search. At this point I noticed that part of an old railway sleeper had become wedged across the entrance of a small culvert, could this be intentional - YES, my form was whisked away into the dark depths and returned.

When I got back to my car there was another DF car parked behind me - fortunately with driver. I set off to the SE, this meant going through the narrow streets of Lavenham, which is not noted for its roadsigns. I obtained one bearing en-route, then overshot the site by 1 Km and obtained a reverse bearing which indicated Constitution Hill just to the West of Hadleigh. Here I found Peter Larbalestier and George Whenham - still searching for Mike. I too found the aerial but followed it to the wrong end and spent some time there before I heard Mike giving some words of encouragement to Peter and quickly transferred my attention to the correct area. The undergrowth was not particularly thick but was pretty ferocious. It took some determination and thick ex-army trousers to reach the transmitter; Peter was not far behind me. I was just relaxing when the undergrowth parted again - this time it was Andrew, and he was not pleased to see me.

Once again we were invited to Great Cornard for our Apres-DF. Pat Hawkins had transformed our Bring-a-Bite offerings into a very substantial Tea, which was enjoyed by all. Afterwards there was time for stories, speeches, and the award of the Trophy.

Our thanks go to Alan and Mike for providing two excellent DF transmitter sites and to Pat for arranging our Tea.

Results

1	Dick Brocks	2.25	3.48
2	Andrew Mead	2.49	3.49
3	Peter Graves	2.51	4.00
4	Philip Cunningham	2.49	
5	Roy Emeny	3.28	4.35
6	Peter Larbalestier		3.49
7	George Whenham		3.55

Future Events

The final event of 1993 will be the Colchester Night DF which will take place on Friday 12th November, starting from Fordham Heath.

73 from Roy & Ela Martyr, G3PMX & G6HKM

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