



Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society

Established 1936

Affiliated to the RSGB
President: Harry Heap G5HF
Secretary: David Bradley M0BQC

Club Call Sign: G0MWT
Chairman: John Bowen G8DET
Treasurer: Brian Thwaites G3CVI

Newsletter No. 451

Web Address: www.g0mwt.org.uk

August 2003

The August Meeting ELECTRONICS TABLETOP SALE Tuesday 5TH August, 7-30pm at the MASC.

August again already and that means another tabletop sale and the opportunity to buy, to sell or just to view all the goodies available. Not buying, selling or viewing then get up-to-date on the latest news or ask for help on your latest interest. If you have something to sell you can book a table in advance by calling Colin G0TRM. Not much to sell, then share a table. There is no table fee for Club members but 10% of any proceeds would be much appreciated for Club funds. As in previous years we hope to have Mike Wheaton G4ZPE (Zippy to his friends) from Waters and Stanton. He has promised to bring along some interesting selected items from various sources and again as in past years will be donating a very worthwhile raffle prize. A minor change for this year's sale means entry to the saleroom will not be until 7.30pm. This will enable sellers to prepare and display their wares properly and ensure an even chance for all in purchasing items of their choice.

Arthur Butcher G3 KPJ.

It is with a sense of shock and surprise that we have to record the sad passing of yet another Club Member. Arthur Butcher G3KPJ passed away quite suddenly on Wednesday 22nd July. Arthur was a man of wide interests and one of our longest standing Members. A full obituary will appear in our next Newsletter, as there is no time to compose a full and fitting appreciation of his life at such short notice.

If you have any memories of Arthur please let me know so we can all share them. My address is below. Geoff G7KLV

Dates for your Diary

- 3rd August King's Lynn ARC. Rally
- 5th August CARS Club Tabletop Sale 7.30pm
- 13th August Committee Meeting Danbury Village Hall
- 16th August National Wireless Museum Wireless Rally I.O.W
- 16th/17th August Lighthouse/lightship Weekend 2003
- 25th August Huntingdonshire ARS Rally St. Neots

The Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society meets at 7-30 pm on the first Tuesday of the month at the Marconi Athletic and Social Club, Beehive Lane, Chelmsford. For details contact our Secretary: David M0BQC on 01245-602838.

Club Nets: Tuesdays 8-30pm: (2nd) 145.375 (3rd) 1.947 (4th) 1.947 (5th) 145.375 All +/- QRM.

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or email: geoff@g7klv.free-online.co.uk

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Please advise changes of address to Geoff G7KLV.

Letter of Appreciation.

Recently, our Secretary David Bradley received a very nice thank you letter from Mr Nick Wickenden, Chelmsford's Museums Manager. It was sent in appreciation of Club member's fine efforts on IMD and other 'Radio days' at Sandford Mill. All those involved take a bow.

We reprint the letter here.

Dear Mr Bradley

Marconi Day at Sandford Mill

I am writing to express my appreciation at everything that the Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society continues to do for the Museums Service. The public turnout on Marconi Day was very satisfying at some 547 visitors (excluding volunteers and demonstrators) and I hope that CARS was pleased with the response. I understand from Geoff Bowles that visitors even came from Leicester and Bedford Both Geoff and I are immensely grateful to all the voluntary groups who make the Open Days at Sandford Mill possible and I know that CARS has supported us for many years now. I understand that you have even offered to have a presence on one of our new Sunday openings this summer. That is very good news.

I look forward to continuing this fruitful relationship in the months and years to come.

Many thanks once again,
Kind Regards,

Nick Wickenden Museums Manager

And Now, continuing with the theme of the above letter

At the time of writing, preparations are well in hand for our contribution to the RSGB'S Party in the Park and our next attendance at the Science Museum on Sunday July 27th.

Cars will also at the Science Museum on the following four Sundays, so if you have not booked your place yet for the chance to do some operating using a first class transceiver and a proven antenna, then call Brian CVI now.

August dates are: 3rd, 10th, 17th and the 24th. You will be welcome on any or all of these dates.

And just to show how up to date we are with things, here is an item from the AUGUST Radcom, again on the same topic!

Sandford Mill Radio Museum Summer Opening

The Sandford Mill Science and Industrial Museum in Chelmsford will be open to the public every Sunday afternoon from **27 July** until **24 August**. The museum has an extensive collection of radio equipment from early spark transmitters to more recent high power transmitters such as the Marconi H1200. The Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society will be operating GB2MT each Sunday afternoon that the museum is open. The station will be sited in the wooden hut that originally housed the broadcast station 2MT (Writtle) in the 1920s and which has now been preserved inside the museum.

We bring you the news first!!

Our Best Wishes for a speedy recovery go to Brian G4CTS. He is in Broomfield hospital in ward B9 having had an operation. He would appreciate a visit if you were nearby, or a call (440761 Ext 4505)

Last Month's Meeting.

APRS / UI-View Talk by Charlie M0PZT

On Tuesday the 1st of July, Charlie M0PZT treated Members to a talk on the ins and outs of a system called A.P.R.S using UI-VIEW software. He said that this system was devised to make Packet Radio more interesting for some, (*the writer of UI-View*).

What is A.P.R.S I hear you say? (Automatic Positioning Radio System) It's a tracking system utilising Amateur Packet Radio (AX25 Protocols) and a GPS (Global Positioning System) unit. Also there is a simple messaging system incorporated. If the system is in a mobile configuration, every time the car changes location the GPS registers the change and relays the information as co-ordinates over the packet link to any one who is monitoring. This would then be displayed using a suitable program "UI-View" on a map of the area of interest and displayed as a small moving icon with a callsign attached relative to the sending / moving station. (Phew!)

There was to be a working demonstration on the system but due to a technical fault, the Rig Charlie hoped to use, decided to stop working. (You should never move Rig's when they get older). John G8DET supplied the aerial but this was never used.

However, this did not detract from the presentation as there was lots to see on the Power Point presentation. Charlie relayed how, with the right equipment you could set-up an A.P.R.S station using the British written software "UI-View" to see who was out there moving or not. **Slides available from Charlie's web site.**

Charlie also went on to describe how to set the system up and some of the routing protocols that

were used. This also included some commands that put the information on the Inter Net at suitably equipped nodes that allowed world wide coverage of A.P.R.S station (*some even had weather information attached to there output*). Charlie has such a node at his QTH, its callsign is GB7UCF on 50.990MHz, 144.800MHz and 433.800MHz (all FM) and this should cover Chelmsford.

Equipment required for a home set-up any 2M radio and aerial, a TNC (Terminal Node Controller (*Radio Modem*)) You do not need a GPS for the home station as you will not be moving far in your house! For a mobile set-up you should also have a GPS (Global Positioning System). The GPS unit makes it all kick into action also the TNC might be replaced for a smaller, less expensive "TinyTrak" modem (*home construction required for this*).

I am in the process of setting up a mobile system, mainly for use when on Raynet events that require tracking such as sponsored Fun Runs / Bike rides etc, with front and rear markers. When I get it going outside these events, it will be on the usual frequency of 144.800 MHz, where most of the UK activity is.

If you would like to try A.P.R.S then for more information a good starting point is to visit Charlie's web site at <http://www.charliedavy.co.uk/>. There is a wealth of tips and pictures to see and also links to the web site of the "UI-View" software.

Please note the software is also available on the M5AKA CD for those without the Inter Net.

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Reported By Christopher G0IPU

IARU Contest July 2003 by Martyn M3VAM/G1EFL.

I recently took part in the above contest and I thought I would let you know how I got on.

I was working from home using a new aerial which Val, my XYL, kindly bought for me. It is called a PBX-100. The aerial is designed for portable operation, but if you are restricted due to space or planning regulations this may be the aerial for you. When fully assembled five different bands can be operated and with a different configuration of coils and telescopic elements it will operate on the WARC bands.

The aerial is 2.5m high and fairly robust. It is also self-supporting by a ground spike. Radials need to be attached to the base of the aerial and they are supplied with it. It is very easy to set up and tune. It can easily be done in ten minutes with the help of an analyser. I used an MFJ 269 Analyser.

I hear you say how well does it work? In a nutshell I think it's GREAT! In the contest I made many contacts and worked 20 different countries, which included Greece, Cyprus, Albania, Asiatic Russia, Latvia, Finland, Lithuania, Ukraine and Iceland. I was using my FT 897 on battery power and transmitting 10 watts.

Brian G3CVI also has one and is happy with his.

The PBX-100 is £99.95 from W & S and probably less if you can negotiate a discount!

If you want to know more please ask or email me.

Changing Times for Amateur Radio by Murray Niman G6JYB, June 2003

(Some of the highlights of his talk at the last meeting)

The complete set of slides from Murray's presentation can be found on the CARS website.

RA Consultation.

Drop 5 WPM Morse access for bands below 30MHz
Allocations above 75GHz

Intermediate Licensees access to Amateur Satellites
Merger of Class-A/B - some Callsigns Lost?

Morse Assessment retained in Foundation Licence
Changes also due in Foundation and Full Exams from autumn onwards.

WRC 2003

Removal of Morse Requirement (July 25th 2003)

Realignment of 7MHz - controversial

Longer Callsigns - 4 Letter Suffixes Possible?

mm-Wave Band

New frequency allocations and allocation types now available.

Jan 2004 Changes

Deviation: 430 MHz +/- 4.8 kHz peak deviation mandatory for repeaters (25 kHz channel spacing).
+/- 5 kHz peak deviation permitted until 2004

CTCSS access anticipated to be mandatory for NEW Repeater after Jan. 2004. ON ALL BANDS. Existing repeaters likely to have option on phase out of 1750 Hz access (i.e. CTCSS is Primary, 1750Hz Toneburst becomes unsupported legacy)

Reminder

Frequency Deviation 145 MHz +/- 2.3kHz peak deviation (12.5 kHz channel spacing) Mandatory for all Repeaters since end of June 2000.

12.5kHz Operation came into bandplan for FM Simplex Channels on Mar 2003

More success for JIM 2E1GUA

Another success for Jim 2E1GUA in the 432MHz Affiliated Societies Contest 2003, he was the highest placed intermediate licensee
Congratulations to Jim for another excellent effort

Chelmsford ARS in August P. W.

Below we print a report sent in by our Publicity Manager **Trevor M5AKA**. Practical wireless is just one of many publications that Trevor sends monthly reports to. Thanks to Trevor for his tireless efforts.

The Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society dominates the August issue of Practical Wireless. They've printed 4 separate press releases that I submitted. Page 14 has almost a half page write-up

on the CARS constructors' competition along with pictures of Anthony M1FDE, David M0BQC, Colin G0TRM and Denis M3BIA's Morse key. On Page 15 a third of a page is devoted to the Sandford Mill Radio Museum where CARS will be operating every Sunday from 27th Sunday from 27th July until 24th August. There is a large picture of the 2MT hut at the museum. More of page 15 is taken up by publicity for our Foundation classes this September. Page 18 has details of our club programme and another picture, this time one taken at the Picatune talk. As well as the features about CARS, PW contains the usual selection of first-rate articles, such as a review of the new FT-897 and Tex's tips. It is well worth getting.73's Trevor M5AKA .

Contest Manager

As some members will know the position of contest manager has been created and Chris McLaughlin M5CSM has agreed to accept the post. Here he tells us just what he believes contesting involves.

Hello, my name is Chris McLaughlin, I am a new member of CARS and my main interests are in contesting. I have been asked by the committee to re-introduce contesting into CARS and have taken up the post of Contest Manager

My first task is to find who would be interested in contesting and to form a contesting group within the club. What is contesting all about? Well this is quite a hard question because there are so many contests. There are HF and VHF contests with various modes, SSB, CW, and RTTY etc. Generally it is about working as many people as possible, working as much DX as possible. Contesting can sound quite competitive and intimidating, however I want to stress here that this is open for all. My primary aim is to have fun, work some interesting DX, and gradually work our way up the score table. I hope to organise a variety of contests, some from a fixed site and some from a portable site. I would like to use the full range of modes, SSB, CW, RTTY for V/UHF and HF

So are you interested? If so then we need to set up a network to enable us to organise future contests. If you have any interest in contesting (even its just curiosity) then please either contact me directly or fill in and send me the following profile form.

Chris McLaughlin M5CSM

4 Curlew Close, Heybridge, Maldon, Essex,
CM9 4YB
Home Tel: 01621 840923
Mobile Tel: 07719 915872
Email: m5csm@qsl.net

Contest Profile Form

Name:
Call:
Address:
Home Tel:
Mobile Tel:
Email address:

Details of any contesting/portable experience? (Don't worry if you don't have any experience, this is just to find out what contesting/portable experience is in the club).

How would you like to get involved? Take part on the day, help organise, lead a contest.

What equipment would you be willing to bring along to a contest? (Remember equipment is brought at your own risk!)

What type of contesting would you like to do? (Eg. CW, SSB, 5WPM CW, RTTY? HF, V/UHF?) See the following contest calendars for ideas
<<http://www.rsgbhfcc.org/>>
<<http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/>>
<<http://www.blacksheep.org/vhfcc/index.html>>

Would you be interested in helping out at G3SDC station?

(Smaller contests are operated around Lutterworth, Leics. VHF NFD was on the East coast of Norfolk this year, so does mean a bit of travel!)

Anything else you would like to mention? (Additional information about yourself, skills you could share, general suggestions for this new venture.)

New Librarian

As I and many long standing (and sitting) Members will remember, Geoff KLV was for many years the Club Librarian and we can still picture him struggling to each meeting with a large suitcase full of books. Well Geoff has decided his arms are long enough now and he has decided to relinquish the post. So, very many thanks and well done to Geoff for his dedication and well done and thanks to Anthony M1DFE whom has agreed to take on the task of looking after fifty or so Club books.

Anthony has catalogued the CARS Library and divided the titles into categories.

To "hire" a book, please contact Anthony.
E-Mail address, m1fde@g0mwt.co.uk Subject: CARS book library.

For those of you on line you will have already received this information from our Chairman John G8DET in a recent e-mail. You will also know that the library catalogue is now on-line at:

<http://homepage.ntlworld.com/mtn/webcatalogue/index.htm>

For those of you who can view this web site is worth a visit if you are looking for technical books on a variety of subjects. Anthony has taken a picture of each book and included it along with a brief description of each volume.

End Pieces

Thinking about selling some redundant equipment? Then bring to the Club Table Top Sale 5th August

Help wanted Please Does any one have a spare 5amp Regulator type 338K, Your deputy N/L editor would gladly buy a new working example or exchange it for some other goodie,