



Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society

Established 1936

Affiliated to the RSGB
President: Harry Heap G5HF
Secretary: Martyn M3VAM

Club Call Sign: G0MWT
Chairman: Chris Chapman G0IPU
Treasurer: Brian Thwaites G3CVI

Newsletter No 475

Web Address: www.g0mwt.org.uk

September 2005

This Month's Meeting Antennas Live! by Murray, G6JYB Tuesday September 6th. 7-30pm at the MASC

This month is your chance to see Antennas in a whole new light. From Foundation Courses to RadCom, the topic of Antennas is filled with comment and controversy for such simple combinations of wire and metal. Compared to circuitry which can be probed with a multimeter or a scope, antennas and the aether around them can remain a mystery to many.

With the benefit of cheap powerful PCs and increasingly powerful (and sometimes free) software Murray G6YJB will use colourful 3D Graphics and Animation to demonstrate Antennas working, complete with standing waves, field patterns, and sidelobes etc.

Make sure you get a seat near the front for what promises to be a visual feast.

This month the rafflers are Harry G5HF and Trevor M5AKA, please support them!

Dates for Your Diary

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| Sept 6 | CARS Meeting Antennas Alive MASC 7-30pm |
| Sept 14 | CARS Committee Meeting Members welcome DVH 7-30pm |
| Sept 25 | Science Discovery Day at Sandford Mill. CARS 10am - 5pm |
| Oct 4 | CARS Annual General Mtg. MASC 7-30pm |

Operators and hosts are urgently required for our presence at the Sandford Mill Science Discovery Day on Sunday 25th. September. Offer your services to Brian CVI on 01245-474019. Thanks to all Members who supported the Club at the Mill on Sunday afternoon 21st. August.

The Club Net Controllers for September are Ron M3CAM and Denis M0FHA.

Amateur of the Year Award

The Amateur of the Year Award is presented to the Club Member who, in the opinion of the Membership, has made an outstanding contribution to the affairs of our Society or to amateur radio in general. The award will be presented at the Annual General Meeting in October. Three names have been put forward by Members. You will be able to vote for the Member of your choice at the September meeting. Voting forms will be available on Brian CVI's table. Make sure you get one and record your vote.

Situation Vacant

Geoff G7KLV has announced his intention of retiring from his position as Newsletter Editor, and also as a Committee Member, at the end of this Club year. The October edition will be his last one. An opportunity therefore exists for someone to bring fresh ideas and a bright new look to the Newsletter. If you think you are that person have a word with Chris G0IPU or John G8DET as soon as possible. The Committee will give you every support. Don't delay, time is running out!

CARS meets at 7-30 pm on the first Tuesday of the month at the MASC, Beehive Lane, Chelmsford.

For details contact our Secretary: Martyn M3VAM on 01245-469008

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

Newsletter Editor: Geoff G7KLV 01245-473822 or email: geoff@g7klv.free-online.co.uk

Assistant Editor: Colin G0TRM 01245-223835 or email: colinpage@ukgateway.net

Nowadays call signs are changing frequently and it is difficult for us to keep our records up to date. Please keep our Membership Secretary, Brian G3CVI, informed of any changes to your call sign or various addresses etc.

Last Month's Meeting The Table top Sale by John G8DET

The Club Table Top Sale is now a regular feature of our calendar. This year was the most successful to date. At 7.15pm there was a good gaggle of eager people waiting outside with money to spend so the "Door Keeper", Brian G3CVI, having checked that the tables were ready, let the rush begin. All visitors were asked to sign in and then buy a raffle ticket

Chairman Chris GOIPU and Ron M3CAM ran the raffle with many excellent prizes making a profit of £72 for Club funds, one of the best ever. The prizes included a top quality Morse key donated by Zippy G4ZPE our well known and popular visitor from Dengie. As usual he had many happy customers at his table vying for all sorts of goodies from the depths of the Waters and Stanton store. He was pleased to have completely sold out by 8.45pm.

We were pleased to see a number of new stall-holders this year selling a wide variety of test equipment and other items, no doubt the results of numerous "shed or garage clearouts". One such item was a classic Heathkit receiver. Dave Penny G3PEN brought trays of meters as well as plenty of LEDs on PCBs and other components. Geoff KLV 's table earned £90 and cleared the left-overs from Canvey, and he is now rejoicing in unaccustomed storage space. Colin TRM's overall takings of £79-50 from percentages, table rentals and sales, all helped to swell the Club coffers.

Derek Mayes G3MMA had a table loaded with prizes for a raffle with the proceeds going to the Colchester and Chelmsford Hospices. Winners included a visitor Stuart Punch M1EVZ and a Mr. Butterworth - not the one of filter fame! Derek said he was pleased with the donation he would be able to make to the Hospices and thanked CARS for their support. CARS President Harry G5HF and Ethel also had a table in aid of the Chelmsford Hospice which did a brisk trade.

Whilst all this commercial business was going on, Murray, G6JYB had a corner of the room with a video projector displaying and discussing the continuing Ofcom saga.

Our thanks to all the Club Members for their support and also to the many visitors who contributed to the evening's success. Special thanks to those who travelled long distances to be with us, some were known to have come from far away Norfolk. Enquiries were even made from potential sellers from Bognor Regis, so our fame has spread far and wide!

DSP Noise Canceller by Brian G3CVI

The Bands are getting noisy....and not likely to improve in the future.....so read on....

We have been given the chance to assess the performance of an interesting device designed to improve reception under noisy conditions.....well if you think about the rubbish which is sent via the mains and hence radiated you wonder how we ever get any sense at all from the radio waves.

As frequently advertised in RadCom, bhi Ltd

produce a noise-cancelling speaker viz: NES 10-2 which plugs into your rig speaker socket and derives its DC from a mains power unit or from the shack PSU via a fused cable...12 to 24V unstabilised.

In use you select the degree of suppression by setting switches on the speaker body and the volume by setting the gain control as explained in the instruction booklet. The result is rather like a lawnmower (no insult intended) because it removes the "grass" or spikes of noise to such a level that decent copy is heard from the speaker. Obviously there is some residual distortion of the audio but, with careful adjustment, a rough Q2 becomes a clear Q5 and unreadable sideband signals well down in the muck can be received at Q3 or Q4. I tried the unit on my own transceivers and on the club's 847 with very good results in all cases.

A considerable Improvement in bass response can be obtained by plugging in another larger speaker. The size of the in-built speaker is, inevitably, a compromise due to the small size of the unit itself. The socket is conveniently located on the body as are the DIP switches and power socket and volume controls.

Altogether a very useful "bit of kit".

Come to the next Open Day "At the Mill" on Sunday 25th. September and hear the difference.

September Contests from Steve G4ZUL

RSGB SSB Field Day

03/04 September,
Start:13:00 Finish:13:00 UTC, 24Hrs
Bands: 3.5, 7, 14, 21, 28Mhz.
Exchange: RS + Serial number
Sections: Open – 400 watts, Restricted – 100 watts.
full rules & info from www.rsgbhfcc.org

JARL All Asian DX / SSB

03/04 September, 24Hrs
Bands: 3.5, 7, 14, 21, 28Mhz.
Exchange: RS + Age.
full details from www.jarl.or.jp

CQ WW DX - RTTY

24/25 September, 48Hrs
Bands: 3.5, 7, 14, 21, 28Mhz.
Exchange: RST + CQ Zone.
Categories: Single operator (single band & all band)
Multi operator (single TX, Two TX, multi TX)
QSO Points: own country 1 point, own continent 2 points, different continent 3 points.
Multipliers: US States & VE areas 1 point, CQ Zones 1 Point
Final score: QSO points x Multipliers.
full details from www.cq-amateur-radio.com

144 Mhz Trophy Contest

03/04 September.
Starts:14:00 Finishes:14:00 UTC. 24Hrs.
Sections: SF, SO, M, 6S, 6O. (Special rules IARU Co-ordinated S7)
full rules from www.blacksheep.org/vhfcc.

**For any further information please email me at
contests2005@g0mwt.org.uk
or phone 07931-874464.**