



## Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society

Established 1936

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

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

Newsletter No 483

Web Address: [www.g0mwt.org.uk](http://www.g0mwt.org.uk)

May 2006

### **This Month's Meeting - Tuesday, 2nd May. 7-30pm at the MASC QRP Talk and QRP home brew equipment by Hans Summers, G0UPL**

Everyone knows how to work the World using a Californian Kilowatt, but how do you do it using only 1 Watt (QRP)? Hans Summers, G0UPL will be giving a talk on homebrew QRP equipment. Hans is passionate about homebrew and his talk is sure to inspire those attending to give it a go. He has been a GQRP Club Member since 1994 and will be bringing with him a selection of his many homebrew projects. Examples can be seen on his website: <http://www.hanssummers.com/>

#### **Dates for Your Diary**

1st, 10 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup> May	RSGB Club Championship Contest
6 <sup>th</sup> & 20/21st May	VHF Contests
Sat/Sun 27/28 May	CQ WW WPX/CW Contest
Wednesday 12 April	CARS Committee Meeting, DVH 7.30pm. All Members welcome.
Sat/Sun 20/21 May	Kelvedon Hatch, Secret Nuclear Bunker invitation

#### **Amateur Radio Licence Fees**

From 1st October 2006 Ofcom proposes to make Amateur Radio (plus Maritime) licences "free of charge" provided they are applied for on-line. If not, a higher (£20) charge applies to postal applications, including under-21s and over 75s (ie no discounts as at present). Use the info on p7/8 or go to the CARS Website where there is more information and a downloadable Response Sheet: <http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/go/ofcom>  
The closing date for this Response is 16th May 2006.

#### **Training Courses**

The Danbury Training courses need your help to find new candidates to fill them. Its the responsibility of all amateurs to promote training so that the hobby flourishes rather than dies. The Foundation course starting on May-25 has too many spaces which need your help to fill. More info at <http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/training>

#### **Get Ready for the June Constructor's Competition**

This is a fairly light-hearted affair and usually attracts a wide range of entries. There are money prizes and a 'First Time Entry' prize. The judges are YOU so it is openly democratic! Bear in mind that we don't expect a home built transceiver (go on, surprise us!) and often the very simple entries win the prizes! Some years ago a special brick won a prize! Have a go and good luck!

Our grateful thanks to Denis and Joy for posting this Newsletter. Could it have gone by E-Mail?

Please keep our Membership Secretary, informed of any changes to your callsign or E-Mail addresses, etc.

For further details contact our Programme Secretary: Martyn M3VAM on 01245-469008 or look on the CARS Web Site.

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

## **April Meeting: The Royal National Lifeboat Institution by Robin Butcher**

This month's meeting was addressed by Robin Butcher on behalf of the RNLI, ably supported on more "technical topics" by Doug Zeeman. Robin flew into Heathrow at 6.25am BST to give CARS this talk. We think this is the furthest anyone has travelled so far for a talk!

After an introduction giving details of the Institution we saw a film about the Lifeboat service and this was followed by questions. The film although said by Robin to be ten years old and a bit dated nonetheless provided an awesome reminder of the power of the sea in stormy conditions and a fine tribute to the men and women who selflessly save lives at sea.

We learnt about the different classes of lifeboat, updated by Robin afterwards with details of the more modern and staggeringly expensive lifeboats. To see these large boats put through their paces was impressive but we saw some of their development and testing procedures including the capsizing test where the boat is literally turned upside down and must roll back upright.

Of interest to us was to see the Atlantic 75s capable of 34 knots which are based along the Essex coast. There are seven stations on our coast, the 75s now being upgraded to Atlantic 88s capable of 40 knots. As we saw this was not in just calm conditions but setting out when only the foolhardy or very brave and dedicated lifeboat men would set out. It says much of the training and dedication that there is no shortage of such people.

We were told that the old idea of local fishermen setting out on the sound of the maroon is dated. Crews now come from all walks of life answering the pager at any time setting out in all weathers as volunteers. Only one in ten may have previous sea experience. The lifeboat college in Poole set up in 1974 with a full bridge simulator makes up for this

That this is dangerous work was amply demonstrated through details of the Penlee disaster and the loss of the Longhope boat in 1969 and eight crew members. As is often the case families are involved together crewing the boats and in this case more than one generation was lost. Such is the pride and dedication that we learnt later that a grandson was now a lifeboat man.

The modern lifeboat is a sophisticated piece of kit. Closely liaising with the coastguard and the search and rescue helicopters the communications by radio on dedicated frequencies using noise cancelling microphones is impressive indeed.

Add to that the modern use of GPS with a direct down link between the helicopter and the boat and the two perform almost as a single unit.

The statistics provided by Robin are staggering. Three hundred and fifty boats, two hundred and thirty stations, four thousand five hundred volunteers three hundred and fifty of whom are women. In 2005 there was an increase of eight percent on launches, eight thousand two hundred and seventy three! It means in the summer there are repeated launches throughout the day.

But the institution is moving on. There are four dedicated units on the Thames, we were told not always so thanked after rescuing potential suicides, and an increased use of beach rescue teams for swimmers in trouble or trapped by a rising tide.

At Morecambe Bay and Southend to cope with the extensive tidal flats the use of hovercraft is the norm. There is a rapid response team, set up as a result of floods. They went to provide expert assistance in the floods in Mozambique.

The institution we were shown has kept up with the times and modern systems, but the driving force would still be recognised by the founder who in 1824 set out to "save life at sea".

This is still a voluntary funded organisation. Robin was very clear that it should remain so, free from government funding. Almost unique and very different than for instance the US Coastguard who have different additional defensive roll to play.

The club members thoroughly enjoyed the presentation and we were all awed by the dedicated personnel. Money raised by the raffle and Roy's book on Danbury and the lifeboat institution sold that evening, was donated to the Institution. We all hope never to have to go on a Lifeboat in an emergency, but as Robin pointed out there is a collection of boats at the RNLI museum at Chatham Dockyard, funded by the national lottery. If you have not been I for one can also thoroughly recommend it.

Another very good presentation, which generated a lot of interesting questions,

A total of over £150 was raised for the RNLI from a combination of RNLI & CARS sales and a special CARS 70<sup>th</sup> Year Old Celebration Raffle. The latter was assisted by Ela Martyr G6HKM who used to run the Raffle for 18 years.

Thank you Tony & Doug.

**Write up by Jeremy MODUT**

## Feedback

*This section is reserved for items where more information has come to light since a previous Newsletter has been published.*

High Frequency Light Fittings – John G8DET

The Editor chipped back to B&Q an Eterna Fluorescent 3ft Batten fitting. This unit looked lovely but was cost engineered out of existence and had too many faults to work. He purchased from the newly opened Homebase a 3ft unit (model number HX-T8030W) which used an Electronic Ballast (no plug-in starter needed) and lights immediately. Unfortunately it came without a diffuser so a 4ft Thorn acrylic one was purchased from an electrical wholesaler, cut down & modified to fit.

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## Amateur Radio/Military Weekend at Secret Nuclear Bunker

Inside a rural bungalow nestling in the Essex countryside lies the twilight world of the Government Cold War. Behind the blast screens that protect this bungalow is the entrance to an amazing labyrinth of rooms built into a hillside, encased in 10 feet thick reinforced concrete and 75 feet underground.

This is where devolved central government and military commanders would have run the region had the UK been attacked and nuclear war broken out. Built in great secrecy and under strict, military security the local villagers and contractors alike knew nothing of what was concealed in this hillside or how it would be used.

On Saturday and Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> and 21st May the Secret Nuclear Bunker at Kelvedon Hatch will be open to the public between 10am and 5pm. This is a special Military Weekend. There will be people around the site in military uniform and a display of over 50 vehicles.

In addition the special event station GB0SNB will be operating on the HF bands from the bunker throughout the weekend. I understand that Bill G0IQK is looking for operators for the station, for further information email him on [billchewter@lineone.net](mailto:billchewter@lineone.net)

Many CARS members have already expressed an interest in visiting the bunker that weekend. Why not join them on what promises to be a truly memorable day out. Entrance fees are just £5 for Adults and £3 for 5-16 years olds. There is a shop and refreshments onsite and a picnic area in the beautiful woodland.

The Secret Bunker is located at Kelvedon Hatch Lane, Kelvedon Hatch, Brentwood, Essex CM14 5TL and is well signposted on all the major roads in the area.

For more information on the Secret Bunker see [http://www.information-britain.co.uk/showPlace.cfm?Place\\_ID=15709](http://www.information-britain.co.uk/showPlace.cfm?Place_ID=15709)

**73 Trevor M5AKA**

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## New Echolink Node M0SIX-L on 144.825 Opens in Chelmsford

Last summer the EuroJam 2005 Scout Jamboree was held at Hylands Park, Chelmsford. This event, which attracted 8,000 young people, served as a dress rehearsal for the 21st World Scout Jamboree to be held in Scoutings centennial year 2007 at Hylands Park which will attract over 40,000 participants.

The organisers of the EuroJam 2005 Amateur Radio station GB5EJ approached the Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society (CARS) about providing an Echolink facility since to their surprise there was no Echolink available in Essex. Regrettably due to the NoV licensing procedure CARS were unable to provide the Scouts with an Echolink facility in time. However, several CARS members were determined to make sure that Echolink would be available in Essex for future Scouting events.

An application was submitted for an Echolink Node NoV for M0SIX. It took five and a half months before the NoV was finally issued but now M0SIX-L node 265297 is finally on the air on 144.825 MHz using CTCSS Tone-H, 110.9 Hz

As well as Hylands Park M0SIX-L provides coverage for eight other Essex Scout Camp Sites. This Echolink Node is available for use by all Radio Amateurs, however, it is requested that priority is given to any Scout or Guide stations.

When you have finished a QSO press the PTT and enter # on your keypad to disconnect.

Chelmsford M0SIX Echolink:  
<http://www.clive.ward.btinternet.co.uk/>

Echolink: <http://www.echolink.org/>

EuroJam 2005: <http://www.eurojam.org.uk/>

21st World Scout Jamboree:  
<http://www.wsj.scouting2007.org/english/index.php>

Essex Scout Camp Sites:  
<http://www.essexscouts.org.uk/campsites/index.php>

## Yaesu FTDX9000D First Impressions

Following the sale of my FT1000MP-MkV and FTV1000 6m transverter line-up I decided to replace it with Yaesu's new flagship transceiver. The order was placed for a blue display model and two days later I took delivery. Having now lived with it for just under a month these are my first impressions and observations of the unit. The comments are in no way meant to be a technical review or anywhere near a full appraisal of such a sophisticated piece of equipment after such a short period of ownership and, I am assuming that you have all seen and read a certain amount about the unit.

To borrow a description I saw somewhere, this is one "Big System" in every sense of the word, size, functions, capability, etc. If you are considering purchasing one I warn you, weighing in at 30kg this is not for the "economy desk". The mere task of moving, unpacking and installing is a Herculean event on its own worthy of inclusion in the 2012 Olympics. The packing alone would be classed as a luxury dwelling in many third world countries!

For those of you like myself who usually skip to the last paragraph to read the conclusion I'll make it easy for you:

- Was I sceptical before seeing the unit? Yes
- Is it better than the FT1000MP-MkV? Yes
- Is it better than the FTV1000 6m unit?  
Judgement reserved till open season
- Does it work perfectly? No
- Is the documentation good? No
- Is it a pleasure to use? Yes
- Does it feel like a professional piece of kit? Yes
- Is the system worth buying? Yes(so far)
- Is it worth the money? Only you can decide!

### Outside

The first thing you notice is the build quality. Those of you from a professional technical background (others will have to trust me) will know that a good piece of equipment has a particular 'feel' to it, this unit has it by the bucket load. Every knob and button, 124 of them, is beautifully crafted and contoured to enable easy operation even though fairly densely packed. Each is clearly marked with easily understandable legend however here's the first negative point. If you prefer to operate in a fairly dimly lit environment there is no effective illumination or back lighting of the control panel which is a shame. The main tuning knob is a work of art in its own right, the feel and operation are unsurpassed in my experience. It would however have been nice to see a similar approach to the B-VFO control, the size and

position of which is fine but it is way too light to the touch making fine adjustments fiddly.

The two multi-purpose analogue meters, main and sub frequency displays and large multi-function TFT display are a delight though I suspect the information displayed on the TFT may be a little small for older eyes, mine included, however an external screen can be attached via an industry standard 15pin D-Type. Here's the next negative, the brightness of the TFT on my unit is excessive and can not be adjusted as suggested in the handbook.

Whilst on the subject of external connections, there is a plethora of sockets on the rear for just about every conceivable configuration including the ability to connect a GPS unit so that the system knows where it is although I can't see it moving too often! There are four TX/RX antenna connections, one RX only and the ability to place an external device in the selected antenna path. I have found that the isolation between the selected and deselected connections is not good. There is also a connection for a standard PS2 or USB keyboard for use with the built-in logging facility however I think Yaesu have missed an opportunity here to use the keyboard for other operations such as direct frequency input.

### Inside

The unit is basically two identically specified fully independent, fully functional receivers and one transmitter, all controlled by resident firmware based around a Linux operating system which may be customised by a user definable 160 point soft menu (pause for breath!).

My experience so far is that both receivers do not behave in the same way and there are certain functions that do not work effectively, as described or at all which I suspect has more to do with the firmware than the hardware. Hopefully these will be fixed by future firmware upgrades. Having said that, these receivers are better than anything I have ever used. The various combinations and adjustments of filtering are very effective and the value of being able to see the effect of any adjustment on the TFT screen as well as hear the result is not to be underestimated. However two of the options, the Digital Notch Filter (DNF) and Digital Noise Reduction (DNR), both automatic facilities leave something to be desired.

Any member of the club who is genuinely interested in the unit is welcome to contact me and come and give it a try.

I'll finish by saying that anyone who lectures you on this unit claiming to know all about it probably hasn't got one!

**David G8OQW**

## eQSL by Geoff G3EDM

Until I worked Mark VK3VLY on 20m longpath on 8<sup>th</sup> April I must admit I knew nothing about eQSL. So I went on line and looked at: <http://ww.eqsl.cc/>

It is a method of exchanging QSL cards electronically so long as you have access to the Internet. VK3VLY lives in the Melbourne suburbs in Skye near Seaford, about 30km south of where the Commonwealth Games were held. He said he would like to eQSL and this resulted in me taking up the challenge and receiving his card within two days of the QSO. Even airmail from Australia usually takes 5 days so that was a fast confirmation for me. Had I already been registered it would have been even faster. At its basic level (when you have registered as a Regular Member) it is a free service other than what it costs for your internet connection to download your eQSLs.

Registration is in two stages, the second stage is completed after you have received an e-mail giving you your registration number. You may upgrade your membership status to Bronze or Silver by making a donation. One advantage amongst others, of such an upgrade is that you may tailor your reply QSL card.

As a result of registering I was able to see there were some 30 eQSLs waiting for me from as far back as 1996 for contacts on 17 and 20m both on SSB and Pactor. Some were fairly rare countries. I have not yet tried downloading for QSOs on other bands. For those that like to collect awards there is a number of eAwards. For example eDX100 for 100 countries confirmed by using eQSL. The eDX Award is another requiring confirmation of a minimum of 25 countries. And there are many more.

To ensure there is little chance of cheating the website invokes secure methods such as an Authenticity Guarantee (AG) and password check. If you already use an electronic logging system then this can help you when uploading because you can create an export file in the form of an ADIF file, (Amateur Data Interchange Format). For each valid record in your ADIF file an eQSL will be sent to each callsign you worked. I have not yet used this system as I do not use an electronic logging system. G4VXE wrote a useful article in June 2005 RadCom which explains in more detail how a logging system like the ARRL's "Logbook of the World" (LoTW) can do just that. G4VXE's article is well worth a re-read. So far I have found it has taken me just as long as filling out paper cards, but I can appreciate that if I were using an electronic logging system then it would be a timesaver as well as saving on bureau delays and postage.

**Geoff, G3EDM. Vice President.**

## May Contests by Steve G4ZUL

### RSGB Club Championship

Dates for May as follows:

SSB 01 May. 20:00 – 21:30 Local

DATA 10 May. 20:00 – 21:30 Local

CW 18 May. 20:00 – 21:30 Local

Further information from: <http://www.rsgbhfcc.org/>

### VHF Contests

Saturday 6 May: 432MHz Trophy Contest

Starts 14.00 - Finishes 22.00 UTC

Sections: SF, O, (Special rule S6)

Sat/Sun 20/21 May: 144MHz May Contest

Saturday 14.00 - Finishes Sunday 14.00 UTC (24hr)

Sections: SF.SO, M, 6S, 6O. (Special rule M1)

More info from:- <http://www.blacksheep.org/vhfcc>

### CQ WW WPX/CW

Sat/Sun 27/28 May: 48hrs

Exchange RST + Serial Number

Categories: Single operator (Single band & all Bands)

Multi operator (Single Tx, Multi two & Multi Tx)

Scoring: 3 Points on 28, 21 & 14MHz.

6 Points on 7, 3.5 & 1.8MHz.

If on different Continent and if same Continent then 1 Point & 2 Points respectively.

Prefix Multipliers. Number of valid Prefixes worked.

For full details, please refer to February issue of

CQ Magazine or <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/>

All other VHF contests are listed in January Radcom, Page 33. For any further information please email Steve G4ZUL [contests2006@g0mwt.org.uk](mailto:contests2006@g0mwt.org.uk)

Steve says to enter 'sm3cer' into Google, and look on his website - it is very comprehensive

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## Talking to Backnang via Echolink

Thanks to the Chelmsford Echolink Node M0SIX-L it's now easy to talk to Amateurs in Chelmsford's twin-town of Backnang in Germany on 2m FM.

Just go to 144.825MHz, set your CTCSS to Tone-H, 110.9 Hz, press the PTT and enter 53780 on the rigs DMTF keypad and then let go of the PTT. You will hear an announcement that you are connected to the DF0LBG repeater which covers Backnang. Now just press your PTT again and put out a CQ call. Your signal will be routed via the internet to the German Repeater. Replies from Amateurs in Backnang to your call will be automatically routed back and be retransmitted via M0SIX-L on 144.825MHz.

When you have finished your QSO press the PTT and enter # on your keypad to disconnect.

### 73 Trevor M5AKA

## Marconi Exhibit Opens at Oxford

The Marconi Exhibition will be opened by the Chancellor of Oxford University in the presence of Princess Elettra, Marconi's daughter in the Museum of the History of Science at Oxford University on 24 April 2006. The exhibition covers the history of radio from Marconi's early demonstrations in the 1890s to the beginning of regular public broadcasting in the 1920s.

According to Chris Stephens, G3MGS, virtually all the original equipment used by Marconi has been preserved and will be on public display for the first time. (It took five trucks to move the archive to its new home at Oxford from Marconi's old Headquarters at Chelmsford)

The Trustees of the Wireless Preservation Society were responsible for saving the Marconi archive from being broken up and then finding a suitable home for it following the collapse of Marconi in 2001.

The Wireless Preservation Society Trustees have also funded a three year research assistant to catalogue the huge amount of equipment, papers and other ephemera including copies of all the original telegraphic messages passing between the ships involved in the Titanic disaster.

The exhibition concentrates on these dramatic and memorable events in the early story:

- a) Marconi's celebrated early demonstrations, including cross-Channel signals
- b) the achievement of a Trans-Atlantic signal in December 1901
- c) the Titanic disaster and the use of radio to rescue the survivors
- d) the development of radio in World War One
- e) the birth of broadcasting, up to the foundation of the BBC.

These are illustrated by original instruments and documents of outstanding interest. The exhibition uses a number of unique objects and documents relating to the early history of radio, some of which are on public display for the first time.

The Exhibition is free to enter and continues until October 2006. This is something that never happened while the collection was in Chelmsford and should be very interesting to see.

For more information, here is a link to the Museum of the History of Science website.

<http://www.mhs.ox.ac.uk>

**Murray G6JYB & Trevor M5AKA**

## For Sale/Give away!!!!

The lovely 14 Element, 2 m, Long Yagi designed by F C Judd, G2BCX and described on page-21 of the February 1980 edition of Practical Wireless. It is supposed to have a gain of 16dB which though I have my doubts, is certainly good.

It is about 14 foot long and is not light, but it is robust. It would suit a serious 2m operator with a fair amount of space.

Free with a donation to CARS Club Funds.  
Contact G8DET QTHR. Tel: 01245-224677.

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### For Sale - 2

Maspro KSB 50. VGC. £10. This is a 500mm long support boom, to off-set an antenna from the mast.

Similar to Diamond KB430, side support. See page 323 of W&S Cat.

Dick G4DJC. Tel: 01245-256416

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### For Sale - 3

Icom-775 DSP HF transceiver, 200W, internal auto ATU and mains PSU. £900 ONO, happy to demonstrate at my QTH.

John Robson G3HMQ, Tel: 01621-828236  
[johnwrobson@aol.com](mailto:johnwrobson@aol.com)

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## What is the IET?

As of April, a large number of CARS Members are no longer Members of the august Institution of Electrical Engineers (MIEE), following a merger.

The IEE has changed it's name to the Institution of Engineering & Technology, now shortened to IET.

All those Engineers who used to use the IEE for email forwarding (eg [fredbloggs@iee.org](mailto:fredbloggs@iee.org)) were going to loose it. However the uproar has been so successful they can now keep their old addresses until they die. New Members, however will use the IET Address which is:

<http://www.theiet.org/>

It appears someone else had nobbled just "iet.org".

**John G8DET. C.Eng. MIEE (or is it MIET?)**

## CARS Response to DTI Fixed Penalty Notice Consultation

The following was submitted on 31<sup>st</sup> March to the DTI as a response on behalf of the CARS Club, given that we are a major player in promoting Amateur Radio.

**Q1** - Do you agree that the Secretary of State should introduce a fixed penalty regime for certain minor WT Act 1949 offences?

**A1** - YES, we support measures which permit easier enforcement of the WT Act, particularly as we have observed a decline in Ofcom's willingness and resources for enforcement matters, compared to the former DTI Radiocommunications Agency.

**Q2** - Do you agree the proposal that section 1(1) offences, when triable summarily only, other than receive only ones, are appropriate for a fixed penalty regime and should be the subject of the first Fixed Penalty Regulations?

**A2** - YES, although we would prefer clarity as to what appeal procedure is available.

**Q3** - Do you consider that the proposed (£100) level of penalty is proportionate and appropriate?

**A3** - YES, for one-off offences. We would highlight however that in many cases removal of equipment can constitute a financially greater and in practice more effective means of enforcement.

**Q4** - The CA 2003 permits other matters incidental to the operation of the fixed penalty regime to be covered in regulations. Do you think that anything else needs inclusion?

**A4** - As currently proposed, payment of a fixed penalty means there is no further liability to prosecution for that particular offence. CARS feel that once a £100 payment has been made, the record should NOT be totally wiped clean for, say, a five-year period.

As it stands a scenario is possible where an officer serves a penalty notice that effectively absolves a person of liability, leaving an offender free to almost immediately repeat the same offence.

The rules as currently proposed would enable a persistent offender to nominally (or even willingly) keep paying £100 fines which would hinder the ability of a court to take such previous actions into account should a more substantial enforcement action be desired at a later date.

This appears to be somewhat inconsistent with other civil/criminal procedures such as driving penalty points etc., which are cumulative for a given time period and where past records can be taken into account.

Implementation of the new penalty regime should also be in the context of the ability to easily confiscate or disable equipment that had facilitated the offence. We would also advocate a review after a suitable period to ascertain the effectiveness of the new regime, including its operation and extent.

## New Ofcom Licence Fee Proposals for 'encouraging' internet licensing

The last page has been attached to aid postal replies to Ofcom especially for non-Internet CARS Members. From this October, Internet licence applications and renewals will be free, but Ofcom propose a higher £20 charge for all postal applications, including U-21s and over-75s where the former discounts will no longer apply.

It is thought that those Members who will potentially now see a £20 Amateur Radio Licence fee so may like to comment on this.

In the answer to the Question posed by OFCOM, CARS would like to point out the following:-

*If as a Radio Amateur you do NOT Respond, Ofcom will assume you accept their position.*

Trouble is that it is obvious that Ofcom do not seem to care a monkey about what anyone thinks - they will do what they want anyhow!

Having said that, CARS feels that we should point out to them that to many CARS Members (not Internet connected) it is a PRICE INCREASE!

If you are replying by hand, simply write your "Reply" on the rear of our last page if you are short of room. Don't forget to sign it in both positions. Thanks.

If you are doing it by the Internet, simply click on the CARS Web Site and follow the Links.

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### Good News . . .

BBC HDTV has started as a trial from Crystal Palace using low power on UHF channel-31 – Free!  
– though only a few hundred people can receive it.

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### Bad News . . .

The Dept of Culture Media and Sport is proposing to lower the available capacity (and no doubt audio quality) on National Independent DAB Radio by making 30% capacity available for BT Handheld TV instead of getting DVB-H rolled out

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Contributions are appreciated for the Newsletter. Cut-off date for the June N/L is Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> April.

**Edited by John, G8DET with the aid of Colin, G0TRM, Trevor M5AKA & Murray, G6JYB.**

## Ofcom Consultation Response Sheet

### BASIC DETAILS

**Consultation title:** **Wireless Telegraphy Act Licence Fee Proposals for encouraging internet licensing**

**To (Ofcom contact):** **Diana Kennedy, SpectrumPricing@ofcom.org.uk**  
Floor-3, Spectrum Policy Group/Spectrum Markets Team  
Ofcom, Riverside House,  
2a Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1 9HA

**Name of respondent:** .....

**Representing (self or organisation/s):** .....

**Address (if not received by email):** .....

### CONFIDENTIALITY

**What do you want Ofcom to keep confidential?**

Nothing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Name/address/contact details/job title	<input type="checkbox"/>
Whole response	<input type="checkbox"/>	Organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Part of the response	<input type="checkbox"/>	If there is no separate annex, which parts?	

If you want part of your response, your name or your organisation to be confidential, can Ofcom still publish a reference to the contents of your response (including, for any confidential parts, a general summary that does not disclose the specific information or enable you to be identified)?

### DECLARATION

I confirm that the correspondence supplied with this cover sheet is a formal consultation response. It can be published in full on Ofcom's website, unless otherwise specified on this cover sheet, and I authorise Ofcom to make use of the information in this response to meet its legal requirements. If I have sent my response by email, Ofcom can disregard any standard e-mail text about not disclosing email contents and attachments.

Ofcom can publish my response: on receipt  once the consultation ends

**Name** ..... **Signed (if hard copy)** .....

**Question:** Do you agree that the simplification and removal of fees for amateur radio and ship radio licences issued via the internet will be beneficial to users of these classes and do you support the objectives for licence simplification?

**Answer:**