



Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society

Established 1936

Affiliated to the RSGB
President: Harry Heap G5HF
Secretary: Martyn Medcalf G1EFL

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

Newsletter No 498

Web Address: www.g0mwt.org.uk

August 2007

This Month's Meeting – Tuesday, 7th August. 7.30pm at the MASC. Constructor's Competition by CARS Members

This is a yearly event – bring along ANYTHING you have made and show us.

It does not have to be 1,000 Watt FET PA or a Digitally Controlled RX, although that would be good to see – providing it has a remote connection with Amateur Radio of Electronics – you can enter it.

Things to think about: - Is it safe? Does it work? What does it do?
Does it do what you wanted it to do? Could it be improved? Cost?

CARS will have a Laptop with a CD & DVD Player with Projector, Overhead Projector to display photographs. Money Prizes to be won!! - We will also have a Receiver to monitor GB100J.

Once you have signed-in you can purchase a drink from the Bar and meet old & make new friends. See you there. There will be our usual good Raffle.

Dates for Your Diary

Net Controller June	Geoff Mills, G3EDM
Wed 16 th August	CARS Committee Meeting - Danbury Village Hall at 7.30pm - All welcome
All Sunday afternoons in August	Sandford Mill Open Sunday Afternoons. 2 to 5PM. CARS will be transmitting. Please join us as an Operator, Logger, Host or with your Partner & Family. Special Event Call-Sign GB5HF will be used.
Tuesday 4 th September	CARS Meeting – The History of Radar - Andrew Tyler G1GKN

Book Now For Advanced Course

The 4th CARS Advanced Radiocommunications Course starts on Thursday 30th August with the exam on Monday 10th December 2007.

To book a place contact Clive, G1EUC on Tel: 01245-224577
Mob: 07860-418835 E-mail: training2007@g0mwt.org.uk
Training pages: <http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/training/>

Scout's Amateur Radio at Hyland's Park, Chelmsford.

See Page 3 of this Newsletter.

Thanks to Denis, M0FHA & Joy for arranging the Postal Members Newsletter – could it go by E-Mail?

Please keep our Membership Secretary, informed of any changes to your callsign or E-Mail addresses, etc.
Further details contact our Programme Secretary: Martyn G1EFL on 01245-469008 or look on the CARS Web Site.

Club Nets: Tuesdays 8-30pm: (2nd) 145.375: (3rd) 28.375/1,947 (4th) 1.947: (5th) 145.375. All +/- QRM.

Last Month's Meeting: - Livery Companies by Robin Butcher,

Robin began by thanking Martin G1EFL for inviting him back to talk to us again. (He gave us a very interesting talk on the RNLI last year.) He thanked us for supporting them by buying a few items from the stall at the back of the room run by his friend Doug.

Robin explained that the Livery Companies in the City of London were established in the square mile City, the ancient City, and not the modern Westminster political Parliamentary City which only received its first Charter in 1900. The ancient City had its first Mayor in 1189 and was recognised by Prince John while his brother was rushing off to the Middle East on a crusade (nothing changes it is happening today.) The first charter the City received was in 1215. Governments have always been afraid of "The City", William (the Conqueror) did not actually conquer the City but went around it, and then did a deal in 1068, much like the Government does deals with the City Fathers today. The importance of the City cannot be overemphasised contributing more than 2% of the gross national product. It is the leading International Financial centre of the world and being threatened by other financial Cities in Europe who constantly want to take over its position.

The Livery Companies had their origins in this country well before 1066 and are similar to the fraternities and guilds which could be found all over Western Europe. Both Scotland and Ireland have strong guild traditions as had Switzerland and Germany, with strong craft guilds even today. The earliest evidence of a Livery Company was in 1155 when the Weavers Company first charter was granted.

A typical Guild at that time controlled who could work in the trade, it controlled wages, prices, working conditions and the welfare of its workers. One of the main powers of the guilds was that of inspection, confiscation and the maintenance of working standards. If a freeman did not do a good job he could be drummed out, as standards were rigorously maintained.

The name Livery Company came about as the members of the guilds wore distinctive robes or "Livery". Entry to the livery companies can only be made by three methods;

1) By patrimony, if your father was a Liveryman, you were entitled to enter

2) By a 5, 6, or 7-year apprenticeship to a Liveryman, or however long it took in the trade.

3) By Redemption, which meant you paid to become a freeman of that particular company.

All liverymen have to be Freemen of the City for which they have to pay, and take a separate oath. Disputes between the City authorities were commonplace as were disputes between the Livery Companies. The Cordwainers and the Clothmakers would battle for instance over whose jurisdiction a task was to be. In 1340 a violent battle took place between the Fishmongers, the Skinners, lives were lost, and sometimes the ringleaders were put to death. These disputes brought about what today is known as Municipal Administration and this influenced National Government not only in this country but also in the rest of the World where the "Westminster Model" as it is known is often copied. The feuding and fighting used to get quite troublesome especially near the Lord Mayors Show time, when the various masters or wardens of the companies tried to get their Floats nearest to the Lord Mayors.

In 1515 the then Lord Mayor decided to introduce an order of precedence (The show was on the river Thames at the time hence floats in procession) from 1 to 48 and the first twelve are now known as the great 12. New companies have numbers as they are added. Between 1709 and 1930 no new Livery Companies were established and many of the earlier ones were combined or disbanded. Since the 1930s some new companies have been added and are being set up so that today there are some 106 compared with 48 in 1515 when the jostling to get close to the Lord Mayor was at its height. The popular image of the Companies today, the Mercers, the Butchers, the Fishmongers, the Tax Advisors (yes really) is of eating in palatial surroundings although some banquets do occur this is by no means the general rule. At the present time there are 39 Livery halls in the city including the Wellington the hall of the Master Mariners, based along the Embankment and still in the City boundary,

Some of the Companies are still very active today in keeping the standards high, the best known being the Goldsmiths who test and assay all the items of gold sold, at their hall hence, Hall Marked. The Fishmongers are responsible for all the fish sold at Billingsgate. The Vintners ensure all legislation as it affects wine making and selling, is met and complied with, as with the Gunmakers, Saddlers and Lorimers.

Robin then showed us some slides of both coats of arms and pictures of the various very well

appointed Livery Halls and mentioned the names of some well known Mercers, (the No.1 company in the list of importance) Dick Whittington and William Caxton.

The Vintners now No.11 in the order, have Swans on their Coat of Arms and as we all know all the Swans in the country belong to the Monarch, except those on the Thames owned by the Vintners and Dyers companies (of Swan Upping fame).

The Merchant Tailors and the Skinners were No.7 on the importance list one year, and No.6 the next. In 1484 The Lord Mayor at the time was fed up with the two companies making the Show boat procession on the Thames, their private boat race (floats on the river) so he decreed they would take it in turns to lead the procession. (Hence the expression, "All at sixes and sevens")

In 1815 the Apothecary Company were given licence to examine GPs and your GP is likely to be licensed by them even today. One of the most important duties of the Liverymen is the voting yearly for the Lord Mayor who is head of the London Corporation at Guildhall, the London Council Offices.

Thank you Robin for a most interesting talk packed with interesting facts and figures, far too many for me to record here.

Tony G4YTG.

GB100J Hylands Park

GB100J is a special Amateur Radio station that will operate from the 21st World Scout Jamboree 2007 camp at Hylands Park, Chelmsford, Essex from 27th July until 7th August 2007. It will be on the air 24-7 during that period.

They will be operating on or near these frequencies:

SSB: 3.690, 7.090, 7.190, 14.290, 18.140, 21.360, 24.960, 28.390, 50.160

CW: 3.570, 7.030, 14.060, 18.080, 21.140, 24.910, 28.180, 50.160

EchoLink: MB7IDA node 265297 on 144.8375 MHz CTCSS 110.9 Hz or PA5UL node 259814

Because they want to show the Scouts visiting the station the fun of Amateur Radio they will give preference to other Scout Stations for "regular" and long QSOs. When contacting them please be understanding and answer the Scout's questions.

When there are no Scouts present they might switch to DX-Expedition / Contest style operations to give more Amateur Radio Operators an opportunity to contact GB100J. Remember they are there primarily for the Scouts.

Full details of the GB100J station can be found at this website

<http://gb100j.radio-scouting.org.uk/>

Note, NOT a WWW.

Scouts Space Station Schedule

An International Space Station Expedition 14/15 ARISS contact has been planned with students at the 21st. World Scout Jamboree, Chelmsford, England on Saturday, August 4, 2007. GB100J will call NA1SS at approximately 21:10 UTC on 145.800 MHz FM. This will be using the GB4FUN Bus and has been organised with assistance of Chris, G0IPU.

The Scouts have prepared a number of questions for the Astronauts.

Related URL's
AMSAT-UK

<http://www.amsat.org/amsat/ariss/news/arissnews.txt>

Getting Started on Amateur Radio Satellites
<http://www.uk.amsat.org/content/view/408/168/>

Trevor M5AKA

Scout Radio

SAMJAM FM (Special Event Restricted Service Licence Station) will be on air from Hylands Park on 87.7FM for one week beginning Saturday, 27th July, broadcasting the event, music, requests and information.

So if you can't get along you may well be able to tune-in depending on where you are and what outdoor FM reception antennas you have.

GB4FUN Visits Chelmsford

CARS financially supports the RSGB's radio communication foundation amateur radio demonstration vehicle (the Fun Bus), GB4FUN and was pleased it had a successful day in Chelmsford on Monday, 9th July.

It visited the King Edwards VI Grammar School with Ms Penny Bunting who is the Engineering Coordinator and runs the KEGS Young Engineers Club. The event that GB4FUN was at was an inter-schools micro-mouse competition.

Carlos of the RSGB was In-charge of GB4FUN on the 9th July.

Intermediate Success

The candidates on the recent CARS Intermediate course achieved a 100% pass rate. Congratulations to Jim Salmon, Andy Beaumont, Chris Layton, Tony King, Gail Osborne, Grahame Andrews, Barry Oakley and Clive King.

This was the first Intermediate exam to be held under the new syllabus that was introduced following last years licence changes. It meant candidates had to unlearn some of the regulations they'd learnt when doing the Foundation course.

As well as theory there are several practical aspects to the Intermediate such as learning to solder and construct a radio. Having been introduced to home construction by the course the new 2E0's will hopefully be making some of their own radio equipment in the future.

The club had to rewrite many of the Power Point presentation slides to cater for the licence changes and the slides can be freely downloaded from the club website.

Trevor M5AKA

Amateur Radio Licensing Helpsheet

Following the introduction of the Lifetime Amateur Radio Licence and online licensing system in December 2006, Ofcom have recently made available a guide on how to use their online system.

The comprehensive document, which runs to fifteen pages, is presented as a pdf file and has step-by-step instructions on how to use all the online features. It is 978Kbytes so be patient if you are on Dial-Up.

It includes specific instructions on the areas of the system which have caused particular confusion to radio hams, such as the need to 'edit' your details to force the system to generate your licence.

The document, entitled "User Guide for Amateur Radio Applicants", can be downloaded from the Help and Guidance section of the Ofcom web site at : -

<http://www.ofcom.org.uk/licensing/olc/guidance>

Printed copies will be available at the August Meeting of CARS.

Source: RSGB & Trevor, M5AKA.

Contest Success

Did you see Item below taken from August RadCom page 41?

Affiliated Societies Contest (SSB) 2007. Cars Contest manager Steve G4ZUL, Patrick M0XAP and James 2E1GUA took part in the above Contest representing CARS and gained a very creditable 58th position with 2080 points. Well done to all team members.

August Contests from Steve G4ZUL

European HF Championship SSB / CW
Saturday 04 August.
Starts 12:00 UTC Finishes 24:00 UTC
Bands: 1.8, 3.5, 7, 14, 21, 28 Mhz
Exchange: RS(T) + Year first licensed.
Further information from www.lea.hamradio.si/~scc

VHF Contest - SSB / CW
04 August, 144Mhz Low Power Contest
Starts: 14:00 UTC Finishes: 20:00 UTC
Sections: SF, SO. (25W max).

RSGB 2nd RoCoCo/CW
Sunday 05 August,
Starts: 07:00 UTC
Finishes: 09:00 UTC
Band: 80 Metres
Exchange: RST + Postcode received.
further information from www.rsgbhfcc.org

VHF Contest - 432Mhz Low Power Contest
05 August,
Starts: 08:00 UTC Finishes: 12:00 UTC
Sections: SF, SO. (25W max)

VHF Contest - 70Mhz Trophy Contest
19 August.
Starts: 09:00 UTC Finishes: 15:00 UTC
Sections: SF, SO, M. (Special rules M1)
Full rules from www.vhfcc.org

For full information on scoring & rules please see:
www.rsgbhfcc.org

For any further information on contests or NFD,
please email Steve G4ZUL
contests2007@g0mwt.org.uk

Future Meetings – December 2007

Third reminder.

Programme Secretary, Martyn, G1EFL has suggested that the December Meeting is a picture show – YOUR pictures.

The idea is for John G8DET to collate the digital pictures from your CD & put them together on a CD/DVD to be shown at the December Meeting using CARS new projector. If you only have film pictures they can be scanned but not too many, please!

Eric, G8ADX has submitted the first CD with photos. Thanks Eric – as typical, nearly the furthest away is the first to submit an entry!

Pictures from Radio things you found on your holidays would be interesting.

Amateur of the Year Award

Nominations are required at the August Meeting. Please put a name & a Call-sign of the person you wish to Nominate on a piece of paper (envelope, fag packet etc) and hand to Carl, G3PEM at the meetings.

Don't forget to quote your own Call-Sign!

UK Amateur Radio Licences as at 30th June 2007

The UK regulator Ofcom has supplied the figures for the total number of Amateur Radio Licences issued as at 30th June 2007.

Change over 6 months

Grade	30 June 07	31 st Dec 06	Change
Foundation	8762	7915	+847
Intermediate	3817	3444	+373
Full/Advanced	49626	40165	+461
Club Stations	1238	1213	+25

The figures show that in the first six months of this year 1681 individual licences were issued, however, this is not the same as the number of new Radio Amateurs. There is an element of double counting as Amateur licences last for 5 years, so somebody getting their Advanced licence will more than likely still have current Intermediate and Foundation licences. (The UK system requires an Amateur to take their Foundation, then Intermediate exams before they can attempt the Advanced).

The increase in Foundation licences gives a good indication as to the number of newcomers coming into the hobby. The figures indicate that the

annualised total is running at around 1700. This could give rise for concern as it may not cover the numbers of Amateurs dying or leaving the hobby. The Foundation licence was always expected to have a far higher "drop-out" rate than the old C&G Full licence since Foundation provided a way for people to sample to hobby and then decide if it was for them without committing themselves to a year long course. Anecdotal evidence indicates that in some areas the drop-out rate after one year has been as high as 50%. It is, however, hard to get an accurate picture since the licence once issued runs for 5 years so we will only know what is really happening in 2012.

For historical reasons a sizeable proportion of the 8762 Foundation licences are in fact held by C&G Full Licence holders. Back in 2002 Full Class B holders were forced to take out a Foundation licence in order to work the HF bands since their Full licence didn't permit them to operate below 50 MHz (a separate Morse test was required for Class A Full). Over 3000 Foundation licences were issued to Full licence holders and most of those still retain the Foundation licence in addition to their Full.

The numbers getting their Full (Advanced) licence appears to be in line with the last year (2003) of the City and Guilds Full Radio Amateurs Exam (RAE). In that year 820 UK candidates entered the exams which were held in May and December. The pass rate was around 80%.

Trevor M5AKA

70th Anniversary of Marconi's Death

July 20th was the 70th Anniversary of the death of Guglielmo Marconi, he died in Rome aged 63. As a tribute, many radio stations throughout the world observed two minutes of silence. His remains are housed in the Villa Griffone at Sasso Marconi, Emilia-Romagna, which assumed that name in his honour in 1938.

Marconi was born on 25 April 1874, his mother was Annie Jameson, granddaughter of the founder of the Jameson Whiskey distillery.

Fascinated by the idea of using Hertzian waves for telegraphy without wires, wireless telegraphy, he began his experiments in 1894 near Bologna. In early 1896, at the age of 21, Marconi and his mother travelled to London to seek support for his work. He found his ideas were eagerly received.

In July 1897 the Wireless Telegraph Trading Signal Company was formed with their

headquarters in Mark Lane in London and in 1898 the first wireless factory was established in Hall Street, Chelmsford, Essex employing around 50 people.

The distances over which Marconi could communicate rapidly increased and on December 12th of 1901 the letter "S" in Morse was transmitted from Poldhu in Cornwall and received by Marconi personnel in St. John's, New Foundland.

In 1909 he received the Nobel Prize in Physics along with Karl Ferdinand Braun, "in recognition of their contributions to the development of wireless telegraphy".

As the Hall Street factory became too small for the expanding business the move was made in 1912 to a new purpose built site on the Chelmsford Athletics Ground, in New Street.

July saw the 110th Anniversary of two of Marconi's patents:

2 July 1897 U.K patent No. 12,039,
"Improvements in Transmitting Electrical Impulses and Signals, and in Apparatus.."

<http://www.earlyradiohistory.us/1901fae.htm>

13th July U.S. Patent 0,586,193 "Transmitting electrical signals", (using Ruhmkorff coil and Morse code key).

Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Company
<http://www.cwhistory.com/history/html/MarconiWT.html>

Marconi Calling
<http://www.marconicalling.com/>

Chelmsford the birthplace of radio
<http://www.tiscover.co.uk/gb/>

The birthplace of broadcasting
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/essex/content/articles/>

Trevor, M5AKA

Morse Classes are Starting

Starting in September in the Hawkins Room, Danbury Village Hall. A nominal charge will be made – see Carl, G3PEM at a CARS Meeting & put your name forward.

John, G8DET edited this copy. Material supplied by Tony, G4YTG, Colin, G0TRM; Murray, G6JYB, Trevor, M5AKA and Steve G4ZUL.

Do you like the slightly larger font?
Comments please.

Would you like to edit an issue of the newsletter ?
If so let us know.

Items for the next newsletter should be sent to the editor@g0mwt.org.uk by 21 August 2007.