



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 501

Web Address: www.g0mwt.org.uk

November 2007

This Month's Meeting – Tuesday, 6th November. 7.30pm at the Marconi Club.

“The Changing Face of Hobby Radio”

By Elaine Richards, Editor of Radio User Magazine.

Over the years CARS has invited many Editors of renown magazines to come and tell us how they produce their quality product about Radio, month by month.

Radio User includes Radio Amateur subjects.

This is a daunting task and takes skill as well as a very good appreciation of such a fast moving technical subject.

Elaine Richards, G4LFM, Editor of Radio User Magazine (renamed from Short Wave Magazine) will be giving a talk on the "Changing Face of Hobby Radio".

The Society is especially pleased that Elaine has agreed to give the talk as she will have a 4 hour drive to get to Chelmsford.

The CARS Christmas Lunch Tickets will also be on sale – See Julie, Wife of Brian G4CTS. Bring your cheque books - £12 per person – wonderful value!

See you there. There will be our usual good Raffle.

Dates for Your Diary

Sat/Sun 27/28 th October	CQ WW DX – SSB Contest – CARS are entering this Contest with Call-Sign, M2T.
Saturday 10 th November	Trip to The RAF Signals Museum, Henlow.
Wed 14 th November	CARS Committee Meeting - Danbury Village Hall at 7.30pm - All welcome
Monday 26 th November	Inter-Club Quiz Night at Dengie – with good food! Map is at:- http://www.dhars.org.uk/
Saturday 1 st December	CARS Christmas Lunch at The Bell, Rettendon Common, CM3 8DY
Tuesday, 4 th December	CARS Meeting – Photographic record of the year shared with Colchester Radio Club.
Saturday, 26 th April 2008	International Marconi Day at Sandford Mill

Membership Subscriptions are now due for 2007 to 2008 and are now £12.

Please pay Brian, G3CVI at the November Meeting or send a cheque made out to: C.A.R.S.
to:- Mr B Thwaites, G3CVI, 118 Baddow Hall Crescent, Great Baddow, CHELMSFORD. CM2 7BU.
Please enclose a Stamped Addressed Envelope for the Membership Receipt/Card.

Thanks to Denis, M0FHA & Joy for arranging the Postal Members Newsletter – could it go by E-Mail?
Inform Membership Secretary, Brian, G3CVI, of any changes to your call-sign, E-Mail address, etc.
Email Brian at:- g3cvi@g0mwt.org.uk Tel: 01245 471919.

Club Nets: Tuesdays 8-30pm: (2nd) 145.375: (3rd) 28.375/1,947 (4th) 1.947: (5th) 145.375. All +/- QRM.
Net Controller for November is David, M0BQC – Thank you David for taking your turn.

Last Months Meeting:- AGM & Echolink Presentation.

Chairman John opened the meeting with the usual items of interest and then invited Carl, G3PEM to introduce the presentation of the Certificates by President, Harry, G5HF.

First was the first-time Winner of the Constructors Competition – Gwyn G4FKH for Morse Keyer.

- 3rd Prize was Geoff, G7KLV for his complete Toaster.
- 2nd Prize was Brian, 2E1RMD for his Receiver & Dummy Load – he also collected the Chelmsford Award for using Echolink only.
- 1st Prize went to Richard, M3YLB for a beautifully constructed Morse Key on a Granite plinth.

Amateur of the Year Award went to John, G8DET.

The Chairman then opened the AGM noting Apologies. He then read the Minutes of the 2006 AGM written by Minute Sec, Jim, 2E0JPS, which were voted for & accepted.

The Chairman then said that besides those hard working persons in the CARS Committee a large number of additional tasks were undertaken which are often taken for granted. These were then listed and the audience responded with a clap of appreciation.

The Membership Member Brian, G3CVI took the seat and said that we had over 100 Members and that 2007 had been another very good year.

Putting his Treasure's hat on he said that CARS had paid out more money than had been collected – this was done happily - we had sponsored the Training Team to go to Scotland to collect the Kenwood Trophy – purchased a number of items etc. The cost of hiring the excellent room in MASC was always slowly being increased. The Accounts were voted for and accepted. Brian said that to offset inflation he felt that a small increase in the Subs was in order and suggested £12 which after discussion was voted for and accepted.

The existing Committee were thanked by President Harry, G5HF for their good work in the past year and then requested Chairman John to step down. He invited anyone to become Chairman but, as no one seemed keen, proposed that John G8DET be elected Chairman yet again. This was voted for and carried. Harry then proposed that those of the existing Committee who were prepared to stand again be re-elected en-bloc – voted for & carried.

John then took the Chair and Proposed Jeremy, M0DUT to join the Committee – voted for and carried.

Under “Any other Business”, Gwyn took the floor and requested the new Committee to promote Morse – the audience gave a murmur of agreement.

The AGM closed at 8.45pm for refreshments.

Echolink

When the meeting reconvened the Raffle was drawn and Clive, G1EUC was then invited to start the Echolink Presentation.

Clive said that providing the concept of Echolink could be understood – it was then simple – demonstrated this with a nicely produced slide from Murray, G6JYB's laptop which showed the sequence of events in an Echolink call. These are available for Broadband users on the CARS Web Site.

Hand-held RF to an Echolink Node – PC – Internet – PC – distant station Echolink Node – RF to a distant Hand-held or fixed Amateur Radio.

The next slide gave a Google Earth picture of some of the many thousands of Echolink Nodes there were in America.

Local Gateways were quoted as being: -

MB7IDA	144.8375 MHz	Danbury
MB7ICM	50.53	Chelmsford
MB7ICF	29.63	Chelmsford
MB7IWB	145.3375	Grt Totham

Martyn's Favourite Nodes were then projected.

Node	Call-sign	Country
6504	ZL1VK	Auckland NZ
5661	9H1BBS	Malta
7385	DB0EL	Munich DE
57801	VK6RLM	Perth AU

The Commands were then stated.

After a lively question and answer period and bang on time Martyn G1EFL, entered in some Node details and called CQ.

After a moments delay while he changed aerials GU0GUX replied. “Good Evening Koos” said Martyn.

Koos Scheffer, GU0GUX on the Isle of Guernsey was waiting for Martyn's call. The link was coupled to the Club PA but unfortunately was slightly overdriven but the audience were used to listening to Amateur speech so could follow the QSO.

Martyn met Koos on the air in August 2006 and a friendship has grown up. Koos and his wife Judy and son Andrew (also Licensed) have visited Martyn & his wife Val in Chelmsford and when they were in Guernsey visited Koos in his house. Koos assists the running of the Amateur Radio Station situated in a German underground Bunker.

It demonstrated how using a handheld one can have a QSO from a poor location to someone on the other side of the world who shares your interest in radio and develop friendships.

Martyn recommends a book called "VoIP Internet Linking for Radio Amateurs" by Jonathan Taylor, K1RFD, available from the ARRL. A good source for Node Numbers around the World is a book which has been compiled by G4WLI Peter - contact Mike G0UKM direct for further information and cost of the book.

Another good and useful place to obtain node numbers is at

<http://www.echolink.org/> and also check out <http://www.echolinkmap.org/>.

Thank you Clive, Martyn & Murray for the information & presentation.

John G8DET.

Feedback (1)

Buying the SBS-1 Real-time Virtual Radar.

Purchase from Martin Lynch & Sons Ltd
Outline House
73 Guildford Street
Chertsey
Surrey
KT16 9AS.

Email: Kinetic@MLandS.co.uk
Tel: 0845 2300 599 or 01932 567 333

Buying the AirNav ADS-B Box

I now know a little more about the other ADS-B box. This is manufactured by a company called AirNav, <http://www.airnavsystems.com/>

The cost is around £470 depending on the £-\$ exchange rate. It has recently become available from Martin Lynch so there is no longer any need to risk importing one yourself.

A quick look at the AirNav web site shows something very similar to the Kinetic box but at a higher price.

There is a review in the November-2007 issue of the "Radio User" magazine.

I have a copy of CARS Newsletter-500 from Murray, he has made an excellent job of writing up my talk.

Andy Tyler, G1GKN.

Feedback (2)

Hi John. Another very interesting newsletter.

One point about the Radar Talk is that the importance of the Cavity Magnetron. Without the external Cavity Klystron developed by Sutton at the University of Bristol, and the Point Contact Silicon mixer diode from BTH at Rugby, it wouldn't have been much use. In fact, the Japanese had made a Cavity Magnetron, but didn't know what to do with it!

Incidentally, apparently after the fall of Singapore, the Japanese investigated the remains of an RAF radar, and were puzzled by the antennas, which hadn't been destroyed very well - it being considered that the Japanese would know about Yagi antennas, and in fact they hadn't heard of them!

Sutton has a connection with Chelmsford - he married the sister of Peter Wright* of 'Spycatcher' fame, whilst his Father-in-Law was one of Guglielmo Marconi's development engineers. His son became a third generation electronics engineer, designing integrated circuits. The external Cavity Klystron and the T/R cell made using the same techniques were called Sutton Tubes by the Americans in particular. I have a pair of the 10cm external Cavity Klystrons: they were designed for quite high power - several hundred Milliwatts so they could, according to what Sutton told me, be used for measuring the SWR on the waveguide feeder on the original ASV airborne Radar.

Of course, the German GeMA company dated back to 1933, which was when their work on radar started, while the Graf Spee had a 375MHz Seetakt Radar at the outbreak of WWII.

I remember the 80metre Contest - great fun! The only one I've ever won! And the transmitter loan to G3ONE. I never got it back! Somewhere, there's a 160m AM TX with a 5B/254M in the PA - unless it went to landfill years ago.

Still on the steroids, but gradually winding them down and hoping that the side effects will decrease.

73, Peter Chadwick G3RZP

** Peter Wright worked at the Marconi Labs in Great Baddow before joining MI5 - Ed*

Feedback (3)

CARS presented President, Harry, G5HF with a Gift Token for The Cliffs Pavilion at Southend to celebrate his 90th Birthday in July 2007.

John, just had a splendid visit to the Cliff Pavilion, Southend, to see Spirit of Dance, a modern development of the Riverdance. It was an excellent show and my first visit to Cliffs. We both enjoyed our trip which was real treat for us both. So very many thanks to you and CARS for such a wonderful present. So, roll on the next 90!!!

Harry, G5HF

Feedback (4)

From an E-Mail received from Willie McClintock, Past President of the RSGB & a CARS Member.

Hello John, glad to see you and CARS are going as strong as ever!!!

Although now ensconced on the Isle of Wight I have been following all your exploits in the Newsletter over the years and on the Web site. Well done to Harry and the Team. Please pass my best wishes to all concerned.

I am not really active now but listen to radio generally especially to air and sea movements here on the Solent and occasionally I use a hand portable. Nevertheless I am in regular contact with the RSGB and my heart is with those who are active and CARS is up there at the front.

I will continue to read with enthusiasm. Thanks again and good luck

Willie McClintock. G3VPK.

Feedback (5)

Congratulations - Space 50 years On

As reported in the October CARS Newsletter, Sputnik (Fellow Traveller) first flew on 4th October, 1957 – did you hear it?

A number of CARS Members remember listening to it & Ken, G7RTF thought he had a copy of the actual signal as it went around the World, however after extensive searching – he cannot find it. He says he has found a number of other articles which were “lost”!

He has however found a copy of the sound track of Lunar 3 as it crashed onto the Moon – but this was only 42 years ago. A copy is going to be made available on the CARS Web Site as sound does not travel well in paper Newsletters.

John G8DET & Ken G7RTF

Sandford Mill on Sept-23 – GB5HF

Science & Discovery Day was on Sunday, 23rd September, 10am to 5pm. CARS ran the HF Station in the 2MT Hut with Colin, G0TRM & Geoff, G7KLV occupying the Landing for their Morse Demo.

Unfortunately the weather forecast was poor so the proposed 2 Metre Station never ran – in the event the weather was quite good – as Brian, G3CVI says “Weather Forecasting is not an exact science” (Mr Fish & the 1987 Hurricane?).

Many persons turned up and supported CARS including a number of interested ex Marconi Staff.

The Barn housed exhibits put on by Dr Bowles & Trish which included designing & building a parachute & the lowest drag coefficient racing car. The Astro-Dome provided Star interest to those who could sit cross legged for ½ hour!

Thanks to Dr Geoff Bowles for inviting CARS & to all CARS Members who made the event such a success.

Using Two Screens with my XP Computer

Computers have come along way in 20 years as far as the home user is concerned. Generally, in the 1980s one used the CP/M Operating System which enabled one to use a word processing program or a spread sheet. Having loaded say the word processing program and one wanted to refer to something on a spread sheet, one had to close the word processing program, open the spread sheet program, refer to it, close it and open the word processing program again. Wonderful in its day, but a little tiresome unless you had two computers running at the same time!

Windows changed all that so that one could “reduce” the word processing program, open the spread sheet, look at it and then in an instant get back to your word information.

Constructing a Web Site involves writing the site information using HTML, saving it to a folder, opening a Browser such as Microsoft Internet Explorer or Firefox to see what ones handiwork looks like. This, like my previous example, involves swapping code with web pages and back again – wonderful, but tiresome when repeated many times.

Charles, G0GJS gave me a lovely 19” Dell CRT monitor (or it was going to the dump) and this was the stimulus to spend two days rearranging my office to get it on my desk. Unfortunately, when I looked at the connections at the rear of my computer I found I had 2xDVI, not a VGA as per the Dell. I could have bought a DVI to VGA converter but bit the bullet and purchased a slightly more

modern version of my existing 19" TFT Monitor (nearly £100 cheaper!).

I connected the new monitor with the DVI lead provided, switched on – nothing!

Referring to my text books I found a section about running two monitors but had been written by someone who had never actually done it! After some fiddling I got the two running and I am blown away with them – how did I manage without twin screens all these years?

I have set up the left monitor to have my Desktop and Taskbars on it and the "results" on the right hand monitor.

When I click on say my "Word" icon (left) the new page appears on the right screen – as now. To save this I press "Alt" + "F" & then "S". The "Save As" menu appears on the left screen. Dragging the Mouse from the right screen to the left screen – it seamlessly jumps from one to the other – use it to enter the appropriate information and then click "Save". Cursor back to the right hand screen and continue typing. One is free to rampage around the computer using the left hand screen for odd bits of information to paste into the write-up on the right.

This can be repeated with all Microsoft Programs. It is also ideal for preparing a Newsletter. The lack of flickering/flying screens is very much less tiring on the eyes.

Recommended – choose two similar screens – mine are both 19" and 1280 x 1024. I am told that Flight Simulator enthusiasts use three screens to mimic the cockpit and side windows!

Adobe Photoshop however seems to only work on one screen.

Does anyone else use two or more screens – your experiences would be interesting. What programs do you use?

John. G8DET.

November Contests from Steve G4ZUL

144MHz Marconi / CW

03/04 November, Start:14:00 Finish:14:00 UTC.
24Hrs
Sections: SF, O, 6S, 6O.
Full rules from www.vhfcc.org

Japan International DX / SSB

10/11 November, 30hrs
Bands: 3.5, 7, 14, 21, 28MHz
Exchange: RS + CQ Zone
Full details from www.jidx.org

RSGB 1.8MHz / CW

17/18 November, 4hrs
Start: 21:00. Finish: 01:00 UTC. 4hrs
Exchange: RST + Serial number + District code.
Further information & rules from www.rsgbhfcc.org

CQ WW DX / CW

24/25 November, 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

For any further information please email Steve G4ZUL
contests2007@g0mwt.org.uk

CARS M2T Contest Callsign

CARS are going to use M2T on the CQ WW DX – SSB on the 27/28th October. Would you like to operate from the Danbury area in this Contest? If so, contact Steve, above.

Steve, G4ZUL

Digital TV – FreeView (PayTV?)

- 1). On 3rd October, BBC Radio 1, 2, 3 and 4 on Freeview moved into the same space as the other BBC radio services across the UK - from Multiplex A to Multiplex B. Channel numbers are not changing, but a rescan may be needed.
- 2). Sky is proposing to encrypt its services and pull Sky-3, Sky News and Sky Sportsnews off Freeview but keep the space for PayTV services. Looks like FreeView is going PayView!

<http://www.ofcom.org.uk/consult/condocs/dtv/>

The consultation is open until Dec-14.

- 3). Ofcom has published details of two changes to the Multiplexes that affect certain channels on Freeview.
"UKTV History" has moved from Multiplex C to Multiplex D and has reduced its programming hours to twelve hours a day, seven days a week.
"Dave TV" has replaced "UKTV History" on Multiplex C and will broadcast 20 hours a day, seven days a week. It used to be called UKGold2

Murray, G6JYB & Trevor, M5AKA

Dengie Quiz – 26th November

CARS are regular supporters of the Dengie Club annual quiz. Please put Monday Nov-26th in your diary – Their hospitality and catering is renowned at this very enjoyable event.
See new Web Site & map:- <http://www.dhars.org.uk>

Visit to RAF Signals Museum, Henlow By Geoff G7KLV

Do you remember that Geoff, G7KLV organised the transfer of a Receiver HR24 from Ireland to Sandford Mill?

The Curator of the RAF Museum at Henlow found the report on the CARS Web Site & has been in contact frequently with Geoff and a party visited Sandford Mill on the 23 Sept. They have invited a party from CARS to visit then in exchange and this has been arranged for Saturday 10th November, 1-30 pm. for a 2-00pm start.

The Museum is on a MOD site and they will require proof of identity. Henlow is roughly mid-way between Bedford and Stevenage. Journey time approx. 90 minutes.

The Museum Web Site is
www.geocities.com/raf_signals_museum/index.html

This is a car sharing event and Members are requested to offer lifts to Members without transport.

Will all those intending to go please see me at the November Club Meeting and give me your details. A detailed agenda is required to comply with security aspects and give directions – this MUST be received BEFORE going. E-Mail Geoff at g7klv@g0mwt.org.uk or phone 01245 473822 to obtain a copy.

Help Required

Colin, G0TRM does the sound for each CARS Meeting. He still requires an Assistant – could it be you or you, please? See Colin or a Committee Member or E-Mail the Editor. Thanks.

More CARS Centenary Newsletters

We have updated the Newsletter section of the CARS Web Site so you can see the previous centenary/birthday issues.

www.g0mwt.org.uk/newsletter/

CARS Christmas Lunch

We have had evening Dinners and finger Buffets but a common comment from many of our older Members is “Cannot eat late at night” so this year we thought we would have a change and have a Saturday midday Lunch.

It is at the same venue as last years Dinner – The Bell at Rettendon Common on the old A130 Do not use new A130.

The Menu is attached for Postal Members but has already been sent to E-Mail Members. If you have not had one for any reason, log on the CARS Web Site and download one.
Price is great value at £12 per person.

Silent Key Sale.

1. Yaesu Receiver FR101, boxed in good working order with handbook. This would be an ideal starter receiver. Price £50.
2. Gould Oscilloscope OS 300, 20 MHz Dual Trace Oscilloscope. Boxed with handbook and probes. As received the EHT winding on the mains transformer was open circuit. A spare EHT transformer has been fitted and the ‘scope appears to be in good working order.
Price £20. Sold in good faith.
Both items will be on view at the November meeting.

Contact Geoff G7KLV - 01245 473822.

ITU WRC-07 Radio Conference

The 2007 World Radio Conference opened on October-22 in Geneva and runs until Nov-16. Several agenda items are relevant to amateurs. More in the next issue or look at

<http://www.rsqb.org.uk/wrc/>

And Finally

John, G8DET edited this edition.
Material by Colin, G0TRM; Murray, G6JYB, Trevor, M5AKA, Steve G4ZUL, Geoff, G7KLV,

Do you like the fonts used on this issue?
Nobody has commented – do you really read it?

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 Wednesday, 21 November.