



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 508

Web Address: www.g0mwt.org.uk

July 2008

This Month's Meeting – Tuesday, 1st July. 7.30pm at the Marconi Club.

Solar Observing by Peter Meadows, 2E0ZBU

Solar activity has a significant impact on radio propagation through the state of the Earth's ionosphere. In general the more solar activity, the greater the density of the ionosphere which gives rise to better HF propagation and the availability of higher frequencies for long distance communications.

This talk will describe how sunspot activity can be safely observed using modest sized telescopes with special filters as well as the more dynamic solar features of solar flares and prominences using more specialised hydrogen alpha telescopes. A selection of observations made by the speaker over the last solar cycle and from other solar observers will then be shown. After describing the characteristics of solar cycles, the present solar minimum and the start of the new cycle will be discussed.

This leads one to ask the question "When will solar activity start to increase again?"

Finally there will be a short summary of the activities of the Radio Astronomy Group of the British Astronomical Association: - <http://www.britastro.org/info/radio.html>

Peter 2E0ZBU is the Solar Editor for 'The Astronomer' magazine:-
<http://www.theastronomer.org/>

His Solar Observing website can be seen at- <http://www.petermeadows.com/>

CARS will have our now famous Raffle with lots of very useful goodies.

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 6 th July	CARS operating from 10am to 5pm at the Museum of Power, Langford near Maldon.
Wednesday, 9 th July	CARS Committee Meeting - Danbury Village Hall at 7.30pm-CARS Members welcome.
Sunday 27 th July	Colchester Rally – 10am Start
Sunday 3 rd & 17 th Aug	HF Radio with the Public in Sandford Mill 2pm to 5pm
Tuesday, 5 th August	CARS Meeting – Constructor's Competition.
Sunday 10 th & 24 th Aug	VHF/UHF Radio with the Public in Sandford Mill 2pm to 5pm
Sat & Sun 16/17 th Aug	Operating from the Tollesbury Lightship. 9.30am to 5pm. See page 8

Thanks to Geoff, G7KLV for arranging the Postal Members Newsletter – could it go by E-Mail? Please inform Geoff, G7KLV by E-Mail of any changes to your call-sign, postal or E-Mail address, etc. E-Mail him on g7klv@g0mwt.org.uk Thanks. Only by you sending Geoff your E-Mail address, can we ensure you get it correct!

Club Nets: Tuesdays 8-30pm: (2nd) 145.375: (3rd) 28.375/1,947 (4th) 1.947: (5th) 145.375. All +/- QRM.
Net Controller for July is Colin, G0TRM. Thanks to Patrick, M0XAP for doing it in June.

Last Months Meeting:- The Annual; Table Top Sale. By Colin, G0TRM.

Again at this years Tabletop sale approaching 100 Members and visitors enjoyed viewing, and in some cases buying a whole range of new and not so new electronic and other radio related items. As usual we had visitors from far away who came to buy and others who came to sell and in some cases went home with more than they brought. A few faces present on the night, were also seen at previous nearby popular sales event, some weeks beforehand. Particularly the face of Mike Wheaton (Zipy) who had two tables full of goodies and who kindly donated two fine items for our Raffle.

Thanks to the efforts of Trevor M5AKA, the event was advertised to the readers of Radcom, PW and SWM and other radio magazines, they all had the necessary information clearly displayed. Many leaflets were produced for display in local libraries, bookshops and public notice boards. Thanks to the high number of Club members who came along to sell or to buy or maybe to chat, contributing to a great atmosphere. Thanks too, to those who donated for sale, some very fine items to be sold for Club funds.

Thanks to Geoff G7KLV for his part in raising a good sum by selling yards of raffle tickets in his usual persuasive manner

Once again, the evening, both socially and financially was deemed a success
Finally, my thanks to all who played any part in helping to make it a very worthwhile event,

Colin G0TRM

GB96MWT SPECIAL EVENT STATION.

Early in the 2008 it was thought that it would be appropriate to hold a special event station at the Marconi New Street to commemorate the 96 years of manufacturing that has taken place on that historic site. New Street was responsible for many of the technological changes that revolutionised worldwide communications in the 20th century. It was decided to apply to Ofcom for the special event call sign GB96MWT.

After much discussion between Ofcom's Rod Wilkinson and Club Chairman John, G8DET it was agreed a special, special NoV would be issued to John using digits 96 in the call instead of the usual one digit after GB. Unfortunately

when the final date was announced it was found John would be on holiday, so with much appreciated co-operation from Rod Wilkinson the NoV was issued to Colin G0TRM instead. Several Club members were approached to help, mainly ex-Marconi Veterans. A small team of John Yates G1UZD, Ken Hardy M0XBK, Patrick M0XAP and I made a visit to the works the day before the event to survey possible operating positions. Starting at the best spot antenna wise, we visited the roof of Marconi House - an ideal site as a vast ground plane was installed. However we realised, as the operating position would be in one of the offices on the floor below, we would be well away from the main activity of the day. Our final resting place was a suitable room at ground level adjacent to where some 400 Veterans would assemble in preparation for one last look round the factory, where many would have spent most of their working lives, me included.

Our next decision was where to site the antenna. At this point Phil Hodge, our Marconi guide and protector led us via a tortuous route to near the top of the canteen building (the one with the wavy roof). There in a perfect position were some short fixed scaffold poles, which had previously been used for the same purpose, supporting vertical antennas. This is where our recently purchased COMET CHA-250BXII vertical antenna (thanks Martyn, G1EFL) came into its own. With Phil's help the antenna was assembled and mounted in double quick time, and connected to one end of a 50 yard length of half inch coax John Yates had brought along. Time to descend find the other end of the coax and feed it to the operating position. After some furniture rearranging and a minor clean up, John then produced his super Icom rig and its power supply and everything else needed for a complete station. Not forgetting a soldering iron to fix the final PL 259 in place. Some quick checks on all the bands showed excellent VSWR readings, all mostly 1.5 or under, which speaks highly of the design of the CHA 250. Checks finished, we too decided to finish for the day as well and return next morning for the actual event.

Returning next morning with all his equipment, John soon set about arranging everything in good order and was soon calling CQ with our special, special call GB96MWT. Band conditions could have been better but during the few hours of operation some 50 contacts were made worldwide. Many visitors called in to see the station in operation, with Patrick or Ken helping with logging the contacts, all of which went straight into John's laptop, which not only recorded everything, but controlled the Icom as

well. Most of the visitors who came in knew members of the team well, either by their paths crossing within the Company or had actually worked side by side on various projects. Not only were many friendships renewed amongst the Veterans in general but in our smaller group as well. Club members Trevor M5AKA, Clive G1EUC, Murray G6JYB and Anthony M1FDE himself a Marconi Veteran all came to support the activities. Veteran and Club Member Ken Dews, G3PMW came in to see us and took much interest in Colin's Marconi made Wheatstone Transmitter; an elderly device for sending Morse Code from a punched paper tape. Why the interest? Because Ken recalled helping to make them as an Apprentice very many years ago.

Did everyone enjoy the day? Well I certainly did and I think did Ken, Patrick and John did as well. My thanks to them all, especially to John Yates who willingly brought all his own equipment without which, GB96MWT would not have been on the air.

Colin, G0TRM

On The Air from Little Baddow

I was going to start this on the Bank Holiday Monday as the rain had stopped outside activities and I had promised John, G8DET, I would write something for the July issue.

Instead, I got on the air on 20Metres before the power failed here at 11.10 a.m. and worked a station signing M/MOXIG. It turned out that John was operating from the island of Coll (IOTA 008) using a portable station running 20 watts from a battery. I challenged him about the callsign he was using and he said that the prefix M/ denoted he was in Scotland. I said that I thought he should have been using MMOXIG as the MM prefix is the one for Scotland. I consulted the Ofcom bible and then called him back to say that my interpretation of that document was that he should sign MMOXIG/P unless he had notified Ofcom that his station was to be permanently at the Isle of Coll location. For those of you wondering where the island is located, you can find it West of Oban. It appears there is a ferry from Oban calling at Tobermory. Can anyone confirm/correct my interpretation?

By the way, why is it we get so many local failures of power when the weather turns a bit sour?

That brings me to another subject of standby generators. For 36 years I have had a 1 kWatt

standby generator using a Petter alternator driven by a Briggs and Stratton engine. Apart from keeping the central heating pump running and the freezer I do use it around the site here for driving electrical equipment, rather than using very long power leads from the house supply. I find this arrangement cheaper and handier/lighter than using petrol driven equipment such as hedge cutters. Three weeks ago it failed to start. I consulted the Web and a number of local amateurs and eventually determined that the flywheel had to be removed in order to get to the set of points. I also found a source of new points as I decided that this was possibly a better strategy than grinding the old ones. At ten pounds I felt it was worth the change of points rather than having to take the flywheel off a second time. My supplier informed me that the points' clearance was twenty thousandths of an inch. I adjusted them to give this clearance and then re-assembled the engine; it started first time as it had always done in the past.

You may already know that twenty metres is my favourite band and that propagation on this band has been very difficult for the last twelve months and more. It now appears that conditions will not lift until the late autumn at least. I largely look for weak DX on this band and usually a day does not pass when I cannot work at least one VK (Australia). Recently, around 7 to 8 local time, I beam long path over South America and the southern Pacific Ocean to be able to work ZL (New Zealand) or VK.

From 0900Z the short path to VK does open some days, although it is unreliable at this time of the year. The latest time I've used this path is around 1300Z and at that time of year this is midnight in New South Wales. However, recently I did work a new station (for me) VK2NJW and he brought my total of VKs to 2602 different stations worked in Australia. Some of these stations I work fairly regularly. I tend to join the EA7BA net on 14156 kHz rather than call CQ - this has its benefits and downsides. It means there are many others seeking to get reports and hence it can take a long time to get around to your turn. By that time the signal you were hearing from down under has probably gone down as propagation has changed. The way around that problem is to instantly QSY with the other station and have a one-to-one type QSO.

You may ask what power do I use? Generally, I run the full legal limit of 400 W peak but I often find I can break in with just the linear driving power of 40 watts. Limiting factors are the noise level at the far end of such QSOs. Their receivers may be suffering from power line noise.

Yesterday the solar noise was running about S3 with no 20m signals audible at the time. Today the solar noise had dropped to S1 - this making S2 signals Q5. Under weak signal conditions and no contests, I find that opening up the roofing filter bandwidth reduces noise.

When contests are in full swing it is entirely a different matter, as the roofing filter bandwidth has to be reduced to reduce the adjacent strong signals.

Geoff, G3EDM. CARS Vice President.

Indian Software Defined Transceiver

The first Indian Amateur Bands software defined transceiver for HF & 6m has been launched.

Rahul, VU3WJM provides this information on the new rig: 'WonderRadio', the first Indian (commercial) HF+6 meter multiband all mode transceiver. This transceiver is based upon the futuristic SDR (Software Defined Radio) technology and has outstanding specifications.

<http://www.sdrtec.com/>

This transceiver is based on multi part QEX article: - "A Software Defined Radio for the Masses" by Gary Youngblood.

Shipping starts 3rd week of June.

For more information: E-Mail
support@sdrtec.com

For technical information:
rahul.srivastava@sdrtec.com

SDRTec - WonderRadio spec and pictures
<http://www.sdrtec.com/>

Rahul VU3WJM

SOS is 100 year Old

At a conference in Berlin in 1906 the wireless telegraphy community got together to try to agree something that would be both internationally acceptable, and impossible to mistake.

The Italians were using SSSDDD, but it was the German suggestion of SOE - dot-dot-dot, dash-dash-dash, dot - that caught the imagination. But it was felt that it suffered from the same problem as CQD. The E, being one dot, could easily be missed. Eventually the conference plumped for - dot-dot-dot, dash-dash-dash, dot-dot-dot - a signal that is hard to mistake for anything else in the world of Morse.

"SOS is very simple you are not going to hear that at any other time," Mr Eavis, G0AKI says. But it needn't have been SOS of course. Being broadcast without a pause, the combination of dots and dashes could also have been read as IJS, SMB, or VTB. SOS won the day, coming into effect on 1 July 1908. Since then it has stormed into popular culture, littered a thousand newspaper headlines and prompted numerous "backronyms". According to who you believed it was Save Our Souls, or Sinking Of Ship, or Send Out Succour or Save Our Ship. "None of which is correct," says Mr Eavis. "It doesn't stand for anything. It is believed the first ship to have sent out an SOS signal was the American steamer Arapahoe in 1909. When the Titanic was sinking in 1912, its operator first sent out CQD and then SOS, alternating. CQD persisted, particularly among British operators, for many years.

BBC1 TV ran a very good feature in this on Wednesday, 18th June at 7pm on the "One Show" when Carol Thatcher visited Lands End and GB2LD, did you see it?

Murray, G6JYB

Rat-Holes

If you are needing to provide cable access between a work-surface top and it's underside eg for computers, you may need a few rat-holes. These are those neat holes with plastic surrounds that are seen on commercial office desks etc, that are big enough to allow mains and computer plugs to be passed through. I tried to get some plastic surrounds for a home-office construction, but failed - and I was also advised that they can typically cost £5 each.

However, all is not lost! In B&Q, and probably other stores, the plumbing and building section has circular soffit-board vent grilles, at under £4 for 5 items. These require a 70mm diameter hole, and when the anti-bug grille is cut out will provide a neat plastic trim to a hole that is big enough to get almost any plug or socket through. You may need a circular hole cutter as well - not cheap, but worthwhile in the long run, especially if the table-top is very thick, although thin surfaces can be cut with a fret-saw or jig-saw.

A small bonus - the piece of grille that is cut out could be re-used to provide an "anti-gerfingerpoken" cover to a ventilation hole in electronic equipment.

Dave, G3PEN

National Field Day (NFD)

This took place on Saturday 7th & Sunday 8th June under laden skies and although rain was forecast, very little fell – Maldon had plenty however. CARS operated GX0MWT from Sandford Mill under the leadership of Contest Manager Steve, G4ZUL. The NFD team could not have done it without the expertise of Tony, G4YTG's bow and arrow to get the aerial up high in tree. CARS Members provided plenty of assistance erecting the tents and starting the generator.

Steve "volunteered" for the overnight shift to enable others to be wide-awake for the day shift! All operators had an enjoyable time on their shift – G0IBN Andy, G3GLL Terence, G4FKH Gwyn, and our newest club member, Rick G3YEC.

NFD would not be NFD without a hiccup!! This year the computer clock ran slow and sometimes stuck on transmission but we were able to get around this by using the club's rig which has programmable CQ etc and numbering – a great help. Over 600 QSOs made which is very good.

And the band of helpers who helped to put everything up also helped dismantle it all at the end. Everything was cleared away by 4.30pm – very good. We really do appreciate your help – thank you.

The Contest Group

CARS at Museum of Power, near Maldon.

CARS have been invited to operate on Sunday, 6th July at the Maldon Military and Veteran's Show at the Museum of Power, on the B1019, Maldon to Hatfield Peverel road at Langford. The Museum is the old Pumping Station for Essex & Suffolk Water and houses a range of incredible stationary engines, some of which work.

Operating times will be typically 10am to 5pm. Operators, Loggers & Hosts are urgently required to make this a good publicity event.

Please check your diary & contact Brian, G3CVI on 01245 471919 or E-Mail him at: - g3cvi@g0mwt.org.uk

A couple of hours with CARS & the rest of the time to look around the Museum. It is ideal for bright children interested in anything mechanical.

There is normally a charge to enter but we will try & negotiate a "free" or "reduced" entrance – contact Brian before going.

The Chelmsford Award

This Award is still running but will close on the 31st December 2008 when the monies collected will be given to the Essex Air Ambulance.

If you are interested in gaining this Award, please check out the club web site, or speak to me at the Club Meeting.

Martyn, G1EFL

The 25th Practical Wireless Contest.

The last time I entered a contest seriously on VHF SSB was quite a few years ago, but I thought this year I would have a go with the 25th Practical Wireless Contest.

Sunday is normally a lay in day for me to recharge my batteries for work on Monday. However, I was up and about early, setting up my radio and checking the Aerial & Rotator which I had not used for approx one year. Everything seemed to work.

Logging was going to be done on the computer but I have not got around yet to sorting out the computer log which Val, my Wife kindly loaded on to the computer for me. I am not very clever when it comes to computers but Val is my computer buff!! (Everyone has to have a computer buff – Editor)

I made sure that I had a lined pad and several pens and pencils. I was ready to go. I switched on my FT 817 using 2.5 watts and immediately heard G8BGV/P in JO01HP calling CQ. I jumped on him and exchanged serial numbers and locator references, and I was off.

Conditions were not that good but I enjoyed it and by the sound of the other operators they were all having a great time.

In total I made 27 contacts in locator squares worked was JO01, JO00, JO10, JO92, JO82, IO11, IO94, IO80, JO20, JO11, JO02, JO11.

Countries worked were UK, Wales, Belgium & the Netherlands.

Not a winning score but good fun going QRP - try it!

Martyn. G1EFL.

June Contests from Steve, G4ZUL

RSGB Club Championship (80 metres)

CW 07 July. 20:00 – 21:30 Local

SSB 16 July. 20:00 – 21:30 Local

DATA 24 July. 20:00 – 21:30 Local

Further information & rules from www.rsgbhfcc.org

VHF National Field Day

5/6 July. 14:00 – 14:00 UTC, 24hrs

Bands: 50, 70, 144, 432MHz, 1.3GHz.

Exchange: RS(T) + serial number + locator.

Sections: open, restricted, low power,

Full rules from www.vhfcc.org

IARU HF World Championship (SSB/CW)

12/13 July, 12:00 – 12:00 UTC, 24hrs

Bands: 1.8, 3.5, 7, 14, 21, 28MHz.

Exchange: RS(T) + ITU Zone (27)

Categories: single operator, multi operator,
IARU member society HQ station

Scoring:

- within own ITU zone 1 point.
- within own ITU zone but different continent 1 point.
- within own continent but different ITU zone 3 pts.
- different continent & ITU zone 5 points.

Multipliers: total ITU zones plus HQ stations worked on each band.

Please try to work RSGB HQ station GB7HQ on as many band mode slots as possible.

Further information & rules from

www.arri.org/contests

RSGB IOTA Contest (SSB/CW)

26/27 July, 12:00 – 12:00 UTC, 24hrs

Bands: 3.5, 7, 14, 21, 28MHz

Categories:

- any station operating from an island as listed in the IOTA directory. (mainland UK is EU-005)
- world (any station not listed as an island).

Sections: single operator, single op-assisted, multi operator. high power, low power, QRP.

Exchange: RS(T) + serial number + IOTA reference.

For full information on scoring & rules please see:

www.rsgbhfcc.org

For full details refer to February issue of CQ magazine or <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com>

For any further information please email Steve G4ZUL contests2008@g0mwt.org.uk

Not Radio – but of Interest (1) 60 Year Ago

Nothing to do with Radio but of interest?

The Morris Minor, Jaguar XK120 and the first programmable computer were all produced 60 years ago this month.

The Manchester Small-Scale Experimental Machine (SSEM), nicknamed Baby, was the world's first stored program computer. Developed

by Frederic C Williams; Tom Kilburn and Geoff Tootill, at the Victoria University of Manchester, it ran its first program on June 21st, 1948. It solved whether “ $2^{127} - 1$ ” was a Prime Number in 25 minutes. It also played music.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/7458479.stm>

It's success resulted in the Ferranti Mark 1, the World's third commercially available general-purpose computer.

Carolyn Vadeboncoeur, Ex AT&T & BT.

Not Radio – but of Interest (2)

While E-Mailing Carolyn about the “Baby” Computer Project above, another AT&T Software Engineer told an interesting story. Bye the bye, he worked in the same room that UNIX was developed at Bell Labs.

Bob Silva reports: -

“I don't know much about computer music but this week I resolved a question about computer singing that has bothered me for many years. In 1966 I was working at Bell Labs in Holmdel and heard a demonstration where an IBM 7094 sang the song Daisy (“A Bicycle Built for Two”). Two years later, while working at the Labs in Illinois, I went to see the movie “2001 - A Space Odyssey” in which the HAL computer sings that same song as it is being partially disabled. I always thought that there must have been a connection between the movie and the Labs demonstration and this week, reading an article in The New Yorker magazine, I found out there was. It seems that Arthur C. Clarke, the author of the stories that inspired the movie, also saw this demonstration of the Bell Labs computer singing that song and prevailed on Stanley Kubrick, the director of 2001, to use it. So after 40 years I finally have an answer to my question!

Bob Silva, ex AT&T & BT & John G8DET

Not Radio – but of Interest (3)

If you want to see a lovely garden and FREE – visit the gardens of Hylands House, Chelmsford. Access is either via the old A12 coming from London or via the Writtle Bypass along the A414. Both require a few hundred yards walk. The “One World Garden” produced to commemorate the 40,000 Scouts there last year is good to look at. If you pay money you can get into the House with a “Hylands Visit” – look out for the event, it is also well worth it.

After a Lottery win they have developed the Stable block to include toilets and a Café.

If you take an Amateur Radio, please report on signal strengths/band as CARS operated from Hylands Park a few years ago & said "Never again" – propagation conditions were dreadful!

John G8DET

CARS Committee (3rd time of asking)

CARS Committee would appreciate some support. Could YOU please consider using YOUR talents to the benefit of CARS and its hundred or so Members.

CARS have a number of vacancies and would appreciate more help running the Society. We could do with filling the following vacancies:- Minute Secretary, Programme Secretary, News Letter Editor, Assistant Secretary and Social Organiser, to quote a few!

Please see any Committee Member at the next Meeting. Tick sheets are available at the Signing- in desk.

This advert is really working – Thanks!

Martyn Medcalf, G1EFL has signed up as Vice-Chairman and will be Chairing the July Meeting. David Davis, G3SVI & Myra, M0MYA have said they would like to assist with CARS Publicity.

John G8DET. Chairman.

CARS Training

Our congratulation to all 10 candidates who passed the Intermediate exam on the 15th May.

On 12th June the current Foundation course started. The course ended up over subscribed with 13 people applying for the 12 places available. CARS hope to have a further Foundation course soon.

On the first night of the new Foundation course the clubs training HF rig failed. This could have jeopardised the On-Air HF contacts planned for the candidates that evening. Fortunately one of the successful CARS Intermediate candidates Stuart 2E0VZL was at Danbury Village Hall and quickly provided the club with his FT-817 portable all bands (1.8 - 440 MHz) transceiver so the HF contacts went ahead as planned. Our thanks to Stuart.

Our thanks also to those who each week provide the other end on the On-Air HF and VHF QSO's.

Thanks to you all for spreading the word about Amateur Radio and the Course. Can you keep

up the good work during the summer months especially at the Sandford Mill Open Afternoons in August. These provide a good opportunity to explain and demonstrate to the general public what Amateur Radio is all about.

For more information about our courses contact:
Clive G1EUC

Tel: 01245-224577

Mob: 07860-418835

Email: training2008@g0mwt.org.uk

Web: <http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/training>

For Sale - Kenwood TS570D

It comes with its original box, mike, power lead and instructions. It was modified to receive 7,100 to 7,200 when the regulations were changed.

It works as new – Only £475.00.

Patrick, M0XAP

E-Mail: - m0xap@g0mwt.org.uk

RSGB HQ New Telephone Number

For those who aren't keen on 0870 numbers, the new official RSGB HQ Telephone Number is 01234-832700

Murray, G6JYB

Urgent Computer Help Required Kaspersky – 2nd time of asking!

The writer has just loaded Kaspersky Internet Security Suite 7 onto his computer. It seems too restrictive. Who knows about Kaspersky? Do I allow "_sfx.dll" trying to access "Windows\System32\svchost.exe"?

No one has contacted me – maybe no one really knows anything about the Program!

John G8DET

And - Help Wanted – CARS Raffle Table

Please apply on-site at Club meetings.

Nomination for Amateur of the Year Award

It is now time to consider who will be awarded the honour this year of the "Amateur of the Year".

Last year Chairman John, G8DET was awarded it and this has been reported in RadCom.

Carl, G3PEM has volunteered to co-ordinate the poll again this year – thanks Carl.

You will find a Voting Form at the Signing-In desk. Please take one and consider who YOU would like the Award to go to this year.

Completed Voting Forms are to be handed to Brian, G3CVI or Carl, G3PEM at the July or August Meetings.

Voting will close after the August Meeting to give Carl time to organise the results. The Award will be presented at the AGM in October.

Carl, G3PEM

Next Months Meeting - Constructor's Competition – 5th August.

Yes it is soldering iron time already! 80% of the project is always completed in 20% of the time – the last few minutes of the allowed time!

CARS gives away real money. £10, £7, £5, and £5 for 1st, 2nd, 3rd & First Time Winners Award, respectively. This is good money for your efforts.

Basically anything entered can win (don't forget a house brick won in the 1980s) but there is a better chance if it is a) Safe; b) Connected with Radio; c) Electrical or Electronic or d) Interesting. Each Entrant is requested to tell the audience something about the entry – if you prefer, a Committee Member will read out your spiel.

Sandford Mill – Open Afternoons Aug.

As in the past few years, Chelmsford Borough Council has invited CARS to operate from Sandford Mill as part of their Open to the Public event throughout August.

CARS Committee has suggested that the Marconi, 2MT Hut is used on each Sunday, to get away from the mechanical saw upstairs and to maximise on the publicity.

HF Radio will start off the event on Sunday, 3rd August from 2pm to 5pm using the 80 metre Doublet wire aerial that proves so good.

A week later on the 10th July it will be the turn of the VHF/UHF party to populate the air waves. Aerials yet to be determined – ideas please?

The 17th is again HF with the VHF/UHF party finishing off on the 24th. CARS is not operating on the 31st of August.

Put these dates in your diary & see/contact Brian for a slot to Operate, Log or Host.

As with all these events, entrance & parking is FREE.

CARS Committee

CARS Operate from a Lightship!

Would you like a fun-day aboard the lightship Trinity moored at Tollesbury?

International Light-ship/Lighthouse day is on the weekend of August 16/17th August.

I operate as and when I feel like it, it is not a Contest.

I intend operating CW and SSB, alternating between them. If you would like a fun time operating on board this unique vessel I can be contacted on 01621 868347 or E Mail: - g0ibn@kersey1.freemove.co.uk

Andrew Kersey, G0IBN

And Finally...

John, G8DET edited this edition. Material by Geoff, G3EDM; Murray, G6JYB, Patrick, M0XAP, Martyn, G1EFL; Trevor, M5AKA; Steve G4ZUL, Colin, G0TRM, Dave, G3PEN, Rahul VU3WJM & Carolyn Vadeboncoeur, Bob Silva, both Ex AT&T, USA & BT & Andrew, G0IBN.

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 Thursday, 19th July.