



# Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society

Established 1936

Affiliated to the RSGB Club Call Sign: G0MWT  
President: Harry Heap G5HF Chairman: John Bowen G8DET  
Treasurer: Brian Thwaites G3CVI Vice Chairman Martyn Medcalf G1EFL



Newsletter No 534

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

September 2010

This Month's Meeting – Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm at the Marconi Club.

## "The Battle for the Bridge at Arnhem and the problems experienced with Wireless Communications"

By Peter Best, G8BLS

Peter is travelling from Ipswich to tell us about his latest historical investigation into Operation Market Garden in and around Arnhem and Nijmegen, Holland in 1944. Peter has travelled to Holland and knows first hand the problems the Allied Army faced. He will cover:-

- A brief overview of Operation Market Garden - and the Wireless issues suffered in 1944.
- The trip with Tom, G0SBW and the TV crew in July 2004.
- Investigation following on from that trip and a further one in September 2009.
- Operating Wireless over various paths in 2009. - Our conclusions (so far).
- A quick trip around Arnhem and the surrounding area, including video
- Para Drop on Ginkel Heath on 18th September,
- Several wonderful Wireless Museums in the area, a SRS (Surplus Radio Society); Special Event Station at the Liberation Museum at Groesbeek; and a trip down 'Hell's Highway'.

Come along and hear about "History in the Making" in our time.

CARS will have its now famous Raffle with at least 10 prizes.

### Dates for your Diary

Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> September	CARS Operating from BAE Systems, Great Baddow – Battle of Britain.
Tues, Sept-14, 21, & 28 <sup>th</sup>	CARS CW Net starts at 8pm on Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> ; SSB Nets starts at 8.30pm (Local)
Wed, 15 <sup>th</sup> September	CARS Committee Meeting – Danbury Village Hall – 7.30pm. All welcome.
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Sandford Mill Play at 1.30pm followed by Museum visit.
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	CARS Operating from Sandford Mill – Science & Discovery Day 10am–5pm. Free.
Tuesday, 5 <sup>th</sup> October	CARS Meeting – “AGM” by CARS Members.
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Essex Repeater Group AGM, Danbury Village Hall
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	CARS Operating from Sandford Mill – 100 Year Airship America Commemoration.
Saturday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Coach Outing to Bletchley Park. Pick-up from Danbury & Great Baddow.

To be/remain a Member of CARS, send a Cheque for £12 – Adult Membership (16s and under are FREE) to:- Mr Brian Thwaites, 118 Baddow Hall Crescent, Great Baddow, CHELMSFORD, CM2 7BU.

If you would like a receipt, please enclose a stamped addressed envelope with a 2<sup>nd</sup> class stamp.

Thanks to Geoff, G7KLV for sending the postal Newsletters – 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](mailto:g7klv@g0mwt.org.uk) Only by you sending Geoff your E-Mail address, can we ensure **WE** get it right!

Club Nets: Tuesdays 8.30pm: (2nd) 145.375: (3rd) GB3ER: (4th) 1.947/50: (5th) 28.375. All MHz +/- QRM.  
**Net Controller for Sept is TBA** **Thanks to Geoff & Patrick for doing it in August.**

## **Last Months Meeting:- "Digital TV and Radio – What's next?" by CARS Member Murray Niman, G6JYB.**

Chairman John G8DET opened the meeting by informing them of CARS proposed operating schedule from Sandford Mill with the Science and Discovery Day on Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> September and Airship America on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October. After a brief discussion it was decided that for the 100 year commemoration of the world's first commercial wireless in an Airship, and later the first Air-Sea Rescue, that CW would be used in the morning until 1.30pm and then SSB until 5pm and close.

CARS have been invited to join a Coach Outing to Bletchley on Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October from Danbury and Baddow with a possible pick-up from Maldon.

Murray reminded the large audience that his last Digital presentations on March 2002 and 2005 (was it that long ago?) was mainly about Freeview which is now half switched over. Sudbury will switch to full power digital in Summer 2011, whilst Crystal Palace will go in 2012 just before the Olympics Games.

Ofcom replaced the Radio Agency not just for spectrum efficiency but to save (and make) money for the Government of the day. With this in mind, Ofcom have focussed on creating a 'Digital Dividend' by selling off the top TV Channels to mobile phone companies. Post 2012 when Crystal Palace has gone Digital, the UHF TV service will stop at Channel 60. Unfortunately as existing tuners, 'digital' aerials and wideband amplifiers will provide gain up to Channel 69 and will do a great job of receiving interference from the new mobile phones - Just one of the issues where Murray predicts trouble.

Ofcom refused to 'gift' spare UHF spectrum back to the broadcasters for HD as they wanted to maximise the Digital Dividend. To get around this, studies showed that a new DVB-T2 modulation standard and a frequency reshuffle could give a limited HD service in time for the 2010 World Cup and 2012 Olympics. The new UK DVB-T2 signal standard is 256QAM and 32k carrier mode for 36MB/s (and supports up to 1680x1080 HD) and uses MPEG-4. Each carrier has longer guard intervals to improve multipath and impulse interference issues; and ease relay planning if SFNs are used (like DAB).

Following trials in London, the first full power Freeview HD Mux launched from Winter Hill in Dec 2009. Low Power HD is on Crystal Palace – now! New TVs and Recorders are now available with T2 tuners for HD. So another important point Murray made is that old tuners cannot be upgraded – the new T2 tuners are a really special piece of silicon! In the shops make sure you don't buy old stock and look for the new Freeview-HD label which means it has T2 HD chips inside

It is quite likely that any new Muxes or a future Second Digital Dividend would use DVB-T2, rendering older equipment obsolete. So when you are in the shops, look for the Freeview-HD logo!

Another victim of the 'Dividend' is those Radio Microphones which used Channel 69. As its being withdrawn, a fund has had to be set up to replace them FOC so they can use Channel 38.

Murray then went on to tell us what is new on the Internet-TV front – also known as IPTV. In the UK Project Canvas is a partnership between Arqiva, the BBC, BT, C4, C5, ITV and Talk Talk to build an open internet-connected TV platform. Most likely it will be called 'YOUVIEW' and is set to launch in 2011. It integrates broadband with TVs and other boxes, by using a consistent set of standards, and so merges 'IPTV' with Freeview or Freesat. This will offer advances on iPlayer, 4OD etc which at present are all different/separate.

As Digital TV has been such a success the Radio Industry believes it can follow suit by migrating from Band II FM Radio, 87-108MHz to switch to DAB which uses part of the old TV Band III. Like Freeview, it is transmitted in multiplexes, with several stations per frequency block:-

Mux 11B (218MHz)	DAB London-3: DRG
Mux 11C	DAB Local – Kent
Mux 11D	National Commercial
Mux 12A	DAB London-2: Switch
Mux 12B	BBC National
Mux 12C	DAB London-1: CE
Mux 12D (229MHz)	DAB Local – Essex.

(Mux 10A, 10B, 10C, 10D & 11A are spare at present)

Passed just before the election, the 2010 Digital Economy Act sets the targets for Radio Switchover. This allows for Switchover when 50% Digital Usage and 90% Digital Coverage has been achieved. 2015 is often quoted but may not be achieved. A more realistic indicator is that Ofcom Analogue Licence renewals are proposed to expire in 2017.

Like TV Switchover there is a major action and marketing plan but probably the biggest obstacle is that there are millions of FM Radios in cars.

After the refreshment break and the raffle draw, the Question Session produced mainly stories/comment regarding FM Radio versus DAB. Murray commented that as this was a packed presentation with many new acronyms, a PDF of the slides would be on the CARS Website under "Past Meetings August 2010".

Thanks Murray for another major presentation.

**John, G8DET (assisted by Murray, G6JYB).**

## Amateur of the Year Award

Mark Sanderson, M0IEO won Amateur of the Year Award last year – who will get it this year?

CARS Committee have received a number of "nominations" and Voting will take place at the September meeting.

The Shield will be engraved and presented at the AGM in October.

## CARS Committee

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### Amateur Radio - Creating Friendships.

As a communication Hobby, Amateur Radio crosses boundaries and in a number of cases enables friendships to be founded. This has happened to CARS Committee Member, Martyn Medcalf, G1EFL & Koos, GU0GUX who lives in Guernsey, Channel Islands. Martyn has visited Koos and his family last year and again in 2010.

How was it done, you ask? Well Martyn is a whizz with EchoLink and used this to call CQ and contacted Koos.

Martyn says *"I took two Handhelds with me when I went to Guernsey recently, a Yaesu VX-5 and an Alinco DJ-V17. Being a Scout I was being "Prepared" and this proved to be a good move, as the batteries started to play up and would not hold their charge. I used the Yaesu radio a lot of the time but the metal case got very warm.*

*I only operated in the evening before we went to dinner as we were too busy to play radios during the day time. The stations I made contact with were as follows: - G0RAS, 2E0XBF, G6HHP, G8YPK, M0IEO Mark from CARS, G8YPK/Mobile, 2E1RMI Jim from CARS, KI6PNS and KC3MM.*

*Val and I met up with Koos, GU0GUX, Judy and son Andrew and spend some time with them, which was very pleasant and a very nice time was had by all". This meeting was entirely due to Amateur Radio.*

## Martyn, G1EFL.

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### September Radio Sport (Contests)

All in UTC

**04/5 September** – SSB Field Day – 24hr.

**04/5 September** – 144MHz Trophy – 24hr.

**05 September** - 144MHz Backpackers, 11.00-15.00

**09 Sept** – 80m SSB Club Sprint – 19.00 to 20.30hrs

**12 September** – 70MHz Contest – 09.00-12.00hrs

**22 September** – 80m Club CW Sprint – 19.00-20.30

**25/6 September** – CQWW – RTTY – 48hrs.

For further information please email Steve G4ZUL [contests2010@g0mwt.org.uk](mailto:contests2010@g0mwt.org.uk)

## Steve, G4ZUL

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### CARS Proposed 80 Metre Contest

Carl, G3PEM has looked through a few back issues of the CARS Newsletter and noted that in 1967 we had an 80 Metre Contest for Members only.

Carl suggests we introduce this again in January.

Watch this space for details.

## Carl, G3PEM.

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### Radio Path Predictions – September.

Gwyn, G4FKH was requested at the November Meeting to provide an "Only to CARS" Propagation Prediction. Thank you Gwyn.

**Asia: Dhahran** - around 16:00 on 21.0MHz for 88 percent of days, with fair signals.

**Oceania: Sydney** - around 20:00 on 7.0MHz for 49 percent of days, with poor signals.

**Africa: Johannesburg** - around 20:00 on 10.1MHz for 95 percent of days, with fair signals.

**South America: Rio de Janeiro** - around 20:00 on 10.1MHz for 75 percent of days, with poor signals.

**N. America: Washington** - around 06:00 on 7.0MHz for 71 percent of days, with poor signals.

Comments are welcome. Please E-Mail Gwyn at: [g4fkh "AT" btinternet.com](mailto:g4fkh)

## Gwyn, G4FKH

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### Cyprus call-signs with QSL managers outside Cyprus

CARS has received this E-Mail re QSL Cards.

You spent all that money and time building a top-class station. You spent all that time seeking out and working those rare DX stations. Please spend a little more time to ensure that you send your QSL card to the correct destination.

Please do not send QSLs for the following stations to the Cyprus (CARS) QSL Bureau. They all have a QSL manager outside Cyprus. The CARS QSL Bureau cannot and will not deliver QSLs to these stations!

Please write the manager's call sign in BIG LETTERS otherwise your local bureau will most likely send your card to Cyprus.

See below a small sample of those Calls involved: -

Call	Manager	Note
5B/AB2ZB	RA6LBS	
5B/G4MKP	M0URX	
5B/M0XAA	W3HNC	

### **G3PMR from Shack Log.**

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### **CARS Outings – Bletchley Park**

The University of the Third Age (U3A) Baddow & Galleywood Branch are running a Coach to Bletchley Park on Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

Pick-up can be in Maldon, if there is a demand, but Danbury (08.45am) and Great Baddow (09.00am) are normal pick-up points. It is 83 miles away.

It is essential to go on a weekend as many of the rooms are run entirely by volunteers and therefore not open during the weekdays.

Coach seat and entrance is £19.

You can download an Application Booking Form from the Future Events section on the CARS Web Site. It is a 1.4MB Microsoft Word file.

### **John G8DET**

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### **CARS Foundation & Advance Training**

On Thursday, 2nd September CARS starts their next six week Foundation Course in Danbury Village Hall which will run until the exam on the 7th October.

Following that CARS have a four-week 'fast track' Course for the Nov-22 Advanced exam, running from Thu 28-Oct to 17-Nov for which Clive is interested in willing and able candidates.

The PowerPoint slides used for these courses can be downloaded from the Club website.

To find out more about CARS courses contact:

Clive G1EUC  
Tel: 01245-224577  
Mob: 07860-418835  
Email: [training2010@g0mwt.org.uk](mailto:training2010@g0mwt.org.uk)  
Web: <http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/training/>

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### **CARS Christmas Lunch (2<sup>nd</sup> Time)**

CARS traditionally finish their Social Activities with a Christmas Lunch at mid-day on the first Saturday of December, this year being 4<sup>th</sup> December 2010.

This year it is proposed to have it at the Glades Restaurant by the Tesco/Miami Roundabout, Chelmsford.

As this is a new venue for CARS, the Committee would be interested in your comments before the final booking is made.

Middy Christmas Lunch – 3 Course - £17.50.

### **CARS Committee**

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### **So long then.... Windows 2000, early XP and Vista (Second Time)**

On July-13 Microsoft shut off all support to Windows 2000 and Windows-XP SP1/2

I would like to remind people who are still running Windows XP that as of July 13th, 2010, Windows XP SP2 or earlier no longer has any support or security updates. You will need to be on Windows XP Service Pack 3 or look at moving to Windows 7 to be running a supported version of Windows. Support for existing users of Windows XP Service Pack 3 will continue for quite a while yet.

The original edition of Windows Vista lost its support in April – again you should be on a current service pack for it – which is Vista-SP2. Some vendors who support industry on XP are not bothering with Vista and recommend a leap to Win-7 - hint hint!

### **Acrobat Reader & Flash – UPDATE THEM!!**

When was the last time you updated your copy of Acrobat Reader or the Flash Player that your browser uses?

In many cases this is now the main route that your PC can be attacked as Microsoft has patched most of its own issues. The latest and greatest versions of these are Adobe Reader v9.3.4 and Flash 10.1.82.76

Note that Google Chrome automatically updates Flash itself but you have to do it yourself for Firefox and IE8 (and IE9 soon) but it's all free to download from Adobe.com

### **Murray G6JYB**

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### **Microsoft Outlook Express & MS-Office**

John, G8DET has eight email addresses and receives quite a lot of emails such that by January 2010 he had 10,005 in his Outlook Express "Sent" box and 8,800 in his "Inbox". Outlook Express often used to say "Outlook Express wishes to Compress the Files".

Both Murray, G6JYB and Trevor, M5AKA said "reduce the numbers or you will be in trouble".

My computer sometimes hung while loading Windows and sometimes hung while shutting off.

Mark, my paid guru said the Outlook Express files had become unstable due to too many E-Mails and I should have to use Outlook which I had on the computer but never used.

Unfortunately there were five periods where the existing files were corrupted and could not be transferred to Outlook until tidied up. Two years of files were immediately deleted and bingo! We were working after a raft of updates was carried out.

The next day I was informed more Updates were downloaded and lo and behold "You have not got a Genuine copy of Microsoft Office" was displayed.

Every time I log on to Outlook it tells me I am illegal! Microsoft Advantage has found my purchase was an "iffy copy".

I am going to Windows-7 64 Bit and Office 2010 – details later. (*perhaps after Win-7 SP1 appears*)

## John G8DET.

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### AMSAT-UK Videos

Videos of the presentations given at the 25th AMSAT-UK International Space Colloquium are now available on the web. They can be viewed and downloaded at <http://www.batc.tv/>

Click on the 'Film Archive' icon and then select a 2010 AMSAT video.

The presentation given by Murray Niman G6JYB is called "2010 AMSAT What's New".

The full Colloquium schedule can be seen at <http://www.uk.amsat.org/content/view/713/284/1/2/>

AMSAT-UK publishes a colour A4 newsletter, OSCAR News, full of Satellite information. Join at: [https://secure.amsat.org.uk/subs\\_form/](https://secure.amsat.org.uk/subs_form/)

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

## Trevor M5AKA

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### For Sale – Kenwood TS530P

Kenwood TS530P HF Transceiver which can also be use for SSTV and RTTY.

Offers around £200.

Contact Ken G0OSI on 01376 334110.  
E-Mail [g0osi@12freeukisp.co.uk](mailto:g0osi@12freeukisp.co.uk)

### For Sale – Kenwood TS570D

Ex Tom, G4IMN's rig.

Kenwood TS 570D HF Transceiver.  
It has an Automatic ATU, Voice Chip, Manual, Kenwood Microphone.

VGC, £400 ono.

Miss P.G. Frankland telephone 01245 259194.  
E-Mail [pat.frankland131@btinternet.com](mailto:pat.frankland131@btinternet.com)

## P.G. Frankland

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### For Sale – Moonraker 2M Aerial.

Moonraker 2Metre 2ele HB9CV beam. exc condition, built, ready to use! £15.

E-Mail [g4djc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:g4djc@yahoo.co.uk).

## Dick G4DJC

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### Ofcom PLT Stakeholder Meeting Notes

On 3<sup>rd</sup> August Ofcom held a Power Line Telecommunications (PLT) stakeholder meeting at Riverside House, London following a report on PLT that Ofcom had commissioned from PA Consulting. The following organisations were represented:-

Ofcom (Enforcement, Licensing, R&D, Field Ops, COO); BIS; PA Consulting; Comtrend; European Commission (DG Enterprise); DS2; Civil Aviation Authority, BBC Domestic and World Service, BT; EMCIA; UKQRM; RAOTA (Veteran radio amateurs) and the RSGB

**Session 1.** (PA presentation & questions) 1100 BST.

Ofcom COO opens meeting and leaves.

Julian Lake (PA, Project Manager of report) presents report & summarises. *"In conclusion, firstly, all the HF services require notching."* 11:26 BST.

*PA failed to model flats / high-rise & other very high density areas which will be the worst polluters of all PLT installations.*

*BIS appeared to not understand the difference between PLA and BPL. BIS confirmed that there is renewed interest in BPL commercially.*

*PA were unable to answer technical questions, failed to respond appropriately to criticism of inconsistencies and were clearly influenced by the corporate claims of new mitigation technology which is unproven by field testing.*

*The Civil Aviation Authority appear to be deeply troubled by the PA report and want PA's assumptions tested & verified; PA's consideration of 1% as negligible is not an acceptable order of*

*magnitude for CAA and they intend to take action, but uncertain what action.*

*The EMCIA provided proof that the new Power Control specification is not a power reduction scheme but a power increase scheme, whereby the level of interference generated by the current Comtrend devices falls in the centre of the power range and could in fact be increased by a further 15db above this level: i.e. Power Control = Comtrend +/- 15dB (not forgetting that Comtrend is already 36db above EN55022).*

*BBC called into question the PA assumptions on worst-case, suggesting that this more closely represents average radio equipment scenarios.*

*UKQRM / RSGBs John Pink challenged PA that Smart Notching is invalid by way of the devices will be looking at an "antenna" which will not necessarily be sensitive on all appropriate frequencies and that the devices will be looking at a raised noise floor which is already polluted with PLT thereby invalidating the noise floor.*

*Jonathon Stott (ex-BBC) expands on UKQRM / JP assertion by stating that originally all Smart-Notching PLT was intended to have a synchronised silent period so that the noise floor could be determined and without this the devices could not make any meaningful measurements and that this feature has disappeared from the specification.*

*PA's assumptions regarding mitigation have been chronically undermined by input from EMCIA, RSGB, UKQRM, CAA, BBC and thus any conclusions weighted by proposed mitigation techniques are equally undermined.*

*PA stand by their report insomuch that action is urgently required. EMCIA, RSGB, UKQRM, CAA, BBC, RAOTA agree this position.*

## **Session 2 (Ofcom Questions) (1204 BST).**

*PA was not present.*

*Ofcom accept the report's technical conclusions but state that the report does not affect their regulatory position on enforcement. Ofcom accept there is a gap in the legislation regarding enforcement of this technology but also confirm that if they had such powers they would only use them under safety of life circumstances and that Ofcom is not obligated to cure all interference complaints. Ofcom's faith in its own statistics is challenged and JP together with the EMCIA illustrate that Ofcom's reporting system is flawed.*

*DG Enterprise, who is not a Stakeholder, reiterates Ofcom's position and was clearly there to keep Ofcom in line and to support them.*

*CAA are so concerned that they have tasked their lawyers to find legislation to deal with PLT polluters. The CAA has also tasked two airlines to test for the presence of interference which could prove significant should PLT deployment continue using the current unmitigated technology.*

*Comtrend were challenged by UKQRM to ship products with BC / IARU / Aeronautical bands already notched. Comtrend side-stepped this.*

*Comtrend spouted typical corporate "we are your friend" line and challenged the meeting delegates to provide evidence of one of its products causing interference to radio. They got what they wished for (G7CNF) but Ofcom intervened to prevent the truth from being told to all meeting delegates.*

*Ofcom reject that the Essential Requirements have been breached despite repeating the mantra "evidence based regulator" and having evidence of the breaches. (Ofcom are re-interpreting the position according to their needs). Or as Richard Marshall put it, "Ofcom have changed the rules..."*

*EMCIA challenge Ofcom's reporting system as dysfunctional. Also challenge Ofcom that operating "evidence based" will not work for cumulative interference as the realisation of the problem comes after it's too late to remedy and laws of physics should be used for this decision process.*

*BBC World Service is worried for its listeners and has received complaints. Ofcom and BBC at odds with who is responsible for shortwave interference.*

## **Trevor M5AKA**

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### **Ethics and Operating Procedures**

Please be aware that IARU-R1 Societies have endorsed a major document suggesting the "correct" operating procedures to be used by all Radio Amateurs – newcomers and old timers alike.

It can be obtained from clicking on the main site at: [www.ham-operating-ethics.org](http://www.ham-operating-ethics.org)

and is also at:- <http://www.rsgb.org/operating/>

### **Carl, G3PEM**

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## A Bit more of History of Broadcasting

Eric Lawley, G8ADX/G3MMX has sent me the results of his recent "walkabout" in Somerset. He has visited some Vintage Wireless Museums.

### Montacute TV & Radio Memorabilia Museum

A nostalgic trip through the World of Radio & TV with a collection of Radios from Vintage Wirelasses to novel transistors and an extensive range of memorabilia, games, books and toys. Open from Easter to the end of October.

1 South Street, Montacute, Somerset. TA15 6XD  
Tel: 01935-823024

<http://www.montacutemuseum.co.uk/>

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### Bakelite Museum

Eric says that apart from old radios it has a vast collection of old domestic stuff. Good fun. People will be saying "my parents had one of those and one of those...and one of those..."

Orchard Mill, Williton, Somerset TA4 4NS  
Open Easter to September, Thursdays to Sundays.  
Tel: 01984 632133

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### Wireless in the West

This is Washford's unique Radio Museum housed in part of a listed 1930s BBC Transmitting Station near Watchet, TA23 0QB.

<http://www.wirelessmuseum.org.uk/> and  
[www.tropiquaria.co.uk/radio.htm](http://www.tropiquaria.co.uk/radio.htm)

The Radio Museum is part of the Tropiquaria Zoo complex but you do not have to go to the Zoo (£8), you only have to pay £2.00 for the Radio Museum. Interestingly, Critalls of Silver End made the museum windows in Essex.

Captain Peter Eckersley (of Dame Nellie Melba fame) was the first Chief Engineer of the BBC and he proposed that several high power transmitters should be built around the country. The birth of the BBC's transmitter network took place in November 1922 when, as the British Broadcasting Company, it took over operation of the London Wireless Station, 2LO, from Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Company. By the end of 1924, nine BBC transmitters, each with an output of 1.5 kW, were in operation in major towns and cities. In addition there were a further eleven lower powered transmitters around the country, mostly relaying London programmes.

At that time there were no transmitters in Somerset – the nearest being the 1.5kW Cardiff station, 5WA.

It was thought that these transmitters would serve an area of about 70 miles but this proved not to be the case, 30 miles being more typical.

The Washford Transmitter was part of the Regional Scheme, opening in May 1933. It cost £150,000 and was 50kW. It was designed to serve South Wales as well as a large part of South West England.

The Transmitter was manufactured by Marconi in Chelmsford and known as a "Type PB2". A pair of 500ft high masts supported the "umbrella" aerial.

### Eric. G8ADX/G3MMX

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## CARS Operating from a Lightship

Lighthouse/lightship weekend was Aug 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup>

Light ship/light house weekend soon comes around again - a bit like NFD. The list of stations said to be operating is amazing - over 400 lighthouses, which include a number of light ships, operating from every continent. There was good dx to be had.

Steve G4ZUL and Andy G0IBN worked mostly CW. Patrick M0XAP, and Martyn G1EFL, used a funny mode called SSB where you try and make out squeaky unintelligible voices through QSB and QRN, a weird pastime!

Rick G3YEC could not get rid of his visitors so was unable to attend! Between us we worked around 230 stations, including Asiatic Russia, South Africa and just about every European and Baltic Station.

One station had our imagination going - a maritime mobile light house??!! The station in question was operating on a yacht anchored off the light house!!

We were using the CARS IC756-Pro3, which has been a very good investment. Our all band whip aerial on the helicopter deck worked fine, but not as good as a beam - we had a lot of QSB.

Fellowship Afloat operate from the sail lofts in Tollesbury and aboard the ex Trinity Light Ship no15. They kindly allow our club members to operate aboard, a unique place to operate.

Fellowship Afloat is a charitable trust who conduct team building, bird watching, art craft and music, power boating and sailing courses.

A bursary is available to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

It is well worth a visit. I will let the club know when the open day is next year. Why not join us next year - you will be made very welcome.

### Andy, G0IBN.

*Thanks Andy – very much appreciated.*

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## Peter Hale – G4OAD – Silent Key

As the newsletter was being finalised CARS learnt that Peter, G4OAD had passed away in Basildon Hospital on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> August 2010, age 88.

Peter was a very active Member of SEARS and CARS and attended every Event and Meeting for a number of years.

He was well into his 80s but always had a young approach to a problem or event. He was always keen to promote CW. CARS extend condolences to his Family and close friends.

Details will be contained on the CARS Web Site. Thanks to Norman, M0FZW for the information.

## The Committee.

*A tribute by Justin G0KSC is on Southgate:*  
[http://www.southgatearc.org/news/august2010/peter\\_hale\\_g4oad\\_sk.htm](http://www.southgatearc.org/news/august2010/peter_hale_g4oad_sk.htm)

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## NATIONAL HAMFEST 2010 October 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Newark Showground

After a successful first National Hamfest last October, the 2010 show is well on track to be an even better event than last year. There will be a lecture area with a number of speakers on all sorts of facets of Communications.

The full timetable will be posted on the website a few weeks before the show so that you can plan your visit. Not been ? Give it a try...

<http://www.nationalhamfest.org.uk/>

The National Hamfest hosts, **The Lincoln Short Wave Club**, will offer an award for **Ham Week UK**.

The special station being set up for the National Hamfest **GB10NH** will be on air from 28th September 2010 until 10 October 2010. The station will be mainly on 40m/80m. 2m operation is also likely.

To gain the attractive award, stations must work GB10NH and 4 other UK special event or club call signs. It is open to all amateurs and short wave listeners. No QSLs will be required. Claims to be made to:

Lincoln Short Wave Club, BSA Social Club,  
Aisthorpe, Lincoln, LN1 2SG

Enquiries to [chris@nationalhamfest.org.uk](mailto:chris@nationalhamfest.org.uk)

**Chris Jones, G0PIO**  
National Hamfest Publicity & PR 07749 680 634

## New venue for RSGB Convention, Oct 8-10

The RSGB Convention has now become one of the most popular and well-attended events of the year. Those who have attended the event over the years will recall that the move to Wyboston was made to accommodate the event's increased attendance.

However, it has now outgrown that venue too. As a result it's been decided to move the 2010 RSGB Convention to Horwood House near Milton Keynes.

Horwood House provides the RSGB Convention with new purpose-built meeting rooms, comfortable lounges and bars, delightful country surroundings and 182 en-suite bedrooms. All bedrooms are within the complex and have easy access to the lecture rooms that we will be using. Within a short distance of Bletchley and Milton Keynes stations and the M1 motorway, this new venue is easy to access.

Presenters at the convention include CARS luminaries Peter Chadwick G3RZP and Murray G6JYB, space scientist and Sky at Night presenter, Dr Lucie Green and Weather forecaster and Sporadic-E expert Jim Bacon G3YLA

Booking and timetable info is at:-  
<http://www.rsqb.org/rsqbconvention/>

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## Battle of Britain - GB70BRS & GX0MWT

Last chance to work GB70BRS!

During its time as a radar research centre and as an operational station for Chain Home radar, Bawdsey Manor was known by the acronym BRS – Bawdsey Research Station. In recognition of the historic events that took place in 1935 and 1940 which played a significant part in Britain's war effort, the site has been activated in Feb 2010 (GB75BRS) and June (GB70BRS).

Over the weekend of 11 and 12 September 2010, BRS will be activated for the final time, as GB70BRS, to commemorate the contribution of radar to success in the Battle of Britain. CARS plan to join in on Saturday Sept-11 - listen out if we do!

<http://bawdseyresearchstation.org.uk>

## And Finally:-

John G8DET edited this edition. Material by; Trevor, M5AKA; Steve, G4ZUL; Gwyn, G4FKH; Murray, G6JYB; Norman, M0FZW; Carl, G3PEM; Eric, G8ADX/G3MMX & Andy, G0IBN.

Items for the next Newsletter, including your experiences with your latest rig or antenna, tips on working DX, or your latest project, to be sent to the [editor@g0mwt.org.uk](mailto:editor@g0mwt.org.uk) by Sat, 25<sup>th</sup> September.