



Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society

Established 1936

Affiliated to the RSGB Club Call Sign: G0MWT
President: Carl Thomson, G3PEM Chairman: John Bowen G8DET
Treasurer: Brian Thwaites G3CVI Vice Chairman Martyn Medcalf G1EFL



Newsletter No 545

Web Address: www.g0mwt.org.uk

August 2011

This Month's Meeting – Tuesday, 2nd August, 7.30pm at the Marconi Club **"Constructors Competition" by CARS Members** **Organised by President, Carl, G3PEM**

It is that time of the year when CARS Members pack the Marconi Meeting Hall to demonstrate their efforts in the field of electronic and mechanical construction. There are very few rules, but it should be electrically safe. Please provide a sheet (piece) of paper with your name, callsign and the brief description of your entry. Other than that anything goes! In the late 1980s a purpose used House Brick got an Award!

CARS provide monetary Prizes: 1st Prize - £10; 2nd - £7; 3rd - £5 and £5 to the person who is a "First Time Winner". We also have to nominate who should be voted for as "Amateur of the Year".

Question & Answer Session (or Film Show)

Depending on the number of entries - on conclusion of the Constructors Competition CARS would like to invite Questions to our Panel of Experts (or show a couple of films).

- Tony, G4YTG - Aerials and Transmission Lines
- Murray, G6JYB - Repeaters, Microwave & Computing
- Carl, G3PEM - Operating Techniques
- The Experts in the Audience when all else fails!

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

Dates for your Diary

Wed 20 th July	Anglia TV Switchover Stage-2: Did you RESCAN YOUR Freeview Receiver?
Sat & Sun 30/31 July	CARS Member Dave, G3PEN is operating GB2FIP from a Narrow Boat
Tues 9, 16, 23 & 30 August	CARS FM & SSB Nets start at 8.30pm (Local)
Wed 10 th August	CARS Committee Meeting – Danbury Village Hall – 7.30pm. All welcome.
All Sunday Afternoons in August	CARS Operating from the Marconi Hut, Sandford Mill – GB100MWT, CW & SSB & VHF/UHF demonstration of Internet connected Amateur Radio. Open to the Public, 2 to 5pm, Free to Enter and to Park.
Thurs 1 st September	CARS – Start of Foundation Course in Danbury Village Hall.
Tues 6th September	CARS Meeting – "Programming your Modern VHF/UHF rig" by CARS Members
16 th November 2011	Anglia TV – time to rescan again - Mux D (ARQ B) changes frequency

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 2nd 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 callsign, postal or eMail address, etc. Email him on 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) GB3DA: (3rd) GB3ER: (4th) 1.947/50: (5th) 28.375. All MHz +/- QRM.

Net Controller for August is Geoff, G3EDM.

Thanks to Colin, John and Patrick who did it for July.

Last Month's Meeting:- "Quality Table Top Sale" by Colin Page, G0TRM.

This year's Tabletop Sale was once again deemed a success both socially and financially. The evening yet again produced a whole range of new and not so new electronic, audio and other radio related items both in complete form and to much delight of some buyers, many smaller but valuable individual components destined to become part of their next project. Perhaps the knowledge that the next meeting is the Constructors Competition helped the purchaser's to decide on what to buy.

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. Many leaflets were produced for display in local libraries, bookshops and public notice boards, all containing the necessary information clearly displayed. Six local Radio stations were also contacted and requested to advertise the event.

A number of members and visiting sellers had some high quality base station equipment for sale as a result of their owner's becoming silent keys. These main equipments included Kenwood TS-940s, TS-850s, TS-870s and a brand new SGC SG2020 Synthesized Low Power Transceiver



The Table Top Sale - Photograph by Colin, G0TRM

My grateful thanks to Brian Thwaites, G3CVI and Peter Graves, G0KSJ. Brian for holding the punters at bay until the start time, recording those who attended and for arranging the deployment of the tables, and Peter for buying the prizes and selling tickets, resulting in the excellent Raffle result.

Thanks to a number of Club members who came along to sell or to buy or maybe to chat, contributing to the atmosphere. Thanks too, to those who donated items to be sold for Club funds such as Stuart Mickel G3WDF whose two boxes of unwanted ICs, coils, antennas and coax etc were eagerly examined and purchased, with the proceeds contributing well to the final total for the evening.

Finally, my thanks to all who played any part in helping to make it a very worthwhile event, and to those Members who contributed a percentage of their takings to Club funds.

Colin G3TRM

This Month's Radio Sport (Contests) - All in BST (Local times)

6 August – European HF Championship - SSB/CW – 12 Hours
6 August – 144MHz Low Power – 14:00 to 20:00 GMT
10 August – RSGB Club Sprint – CW – 20:00 to 21:30

7 August – RSGB RoPoCo CW – 07:00 -08:30 GMT
7 August – 432MHz Low Power – 08:00 -12:00 GMT
25 August – RSGB Club Sprint – SSB – 20:00 - 21:30

For further information please email Steve G4ZUL contests2011@g0mwt.org.uk

Steve, G4ZUL

CARS Propagation Forecast for this month – Just for CARS

Prediction engines rely upon smoothed Sunspot Numbers and not day-to-day variations. That is why predictions carry the caveat that they are only correct for 50% of days! Gwyn tries to make his better!

Asia: Bangkok	around 20:00 on 7.1 MHz for 80 percent of days, with poor signals.
Oceania: Sydney	around 20:00 on 7.0 MHz for 55 percent of days, with poor signals.
Africa: Johannesburg	around 20:00 on 10.1MHz for 90 percent of days, with fair signals.
S. America: Rio de Janeiro	around 22:00 on 10.1MHz for 84 percent of days, with poor signals.
N. America: Saskatoon	around 22:00 on 14.0MHz for 75 percent of days, with poor signals.

Feedback would be appreciated, please.

Gwyn, G4FKH

Sandford Mill Afternoons in August

CARS are operating each Sunday Afternoon from Sandford Mill from 2pm to 5pm. Members of the Public are invited and as usual it is entirely FREE to enter and to park. Tea/coffee and light refreshments will be available – provided by Friends of the Museum from their brick hut by the cut.

Boat trips maybe available – weather allowing.

CARS will open the proceedings on Sunday 7th August with SSB from the Marconi Hut. Additionally there will be Gazebo opposite the Office where Internet Connected Amateur Radio and Echo Link and CQ100 will be demonstrated and headed up by Vice Chairman, Martyn Medcalf, G1EFL and helpers.

Sunday, 14th August the Marconi Hut will be ringing with the sound of Morse with Gwyn Williams, G4FKH in-charge. The Internet Gazebo will also be provided.

Sunday, 21st will be as the 7th with Brian Thwaites, G3CVI co-ordinating SSB from the Marconi Hut. The Internet Gazebo will also be provided.

The last Sunday, 28th of August will see Gwyn with CW in the Marconi Hut. The Internet Gazebo will also be provided.

Special Event Callsign, GB100MWT will be used for all events.

CARS now need Operators, Loggers and Hosts – can you spare an hour of two, please. See Brian or Gwyn at the August Meeting or E-Mail them.

Brian g3cvi@g0mwt.org.uk

Gwyn g4fkh@g0mwt.org.uk

John G8DET

How Do PLL's Work?

If you've ever wondered how phased locked loops work then watch this great 30-minute video by ex-Commodore engineer and electronic hobbyist Bil Herd. (Yes Bil is spelt with one L!)

Watch Phase Lock Loops 101 with Bil Herd <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VP1XwIJHkyE>

Trevor M5AKA

Advance Information IC-E80D & ID-E880 Dual Band Digital Handheld Transceivers and CARS September Meeting

IC-E80D

This rig will have an optional HM-189GPS GPS microphone available which expands the potential for position reporting applications. When connected, it can show position data and even the direction to another suitable equipped D-Star station on screen. The radio is rugged, splash and water jet resistant (IPX-4) making it ideal for outdoor operation. It has 5W RF output power on both VHF/UHF bands and a wideband receiver range covering 495kHz-999.990MHz. Not only is this a D-Star radio but also retains together with the IC-E880, compatibility with all normal FM analogue channels.

ID-E880

The compact, IC-E880 has a large, easy-to-see LCD display. The controller is detachable from the main unit and the magnet-mounting feature allows for flexible installation. The radio also provides a powerful 50W of output power in VHF and UHF, high speed scanning and the latest in noise filter technology.

Main Features of the IC-E80D and ID-E880: -

- D-STAR DV (Digital Voice) mode standard
- External GPS connection ready
- Wideband receive
- DPRS(R) (Digital Position Reporting System) ready

Ian Lockyer, Marketing Manager of Icom UK said,
"Both models are ideal for a range of users from Foundation Licensees....."

They are for sale in the UK, see

<http://www.nevadaradio.co.uk/amateur-radio/transceivers/handheld-transceivers/icom-ic-e80d>

Editor's Note – September CARS Meeting

Although it is nice to see new models such as these there is an inherent problem – in normal hands they seem very difficult to Program. To start with most "Instruction Manuals" issued with the Rigs seem to be written in ChinEnglish or JapEnglish. This can come from computers being the translators rather than Engineers who understand what they are trying to say.

CARS Committee have been asked by a number of Members if some light can be thrown on Programming what is now a computer with an RF Socket. With this in mind the CARS September Meeting will be about Programming Rigs.

D-Star will NOT be covered, as this is a separate subject in its own right.

If you own a modern VHF/UHF Rig and have either mastered how to tame it OR cannot tame it – we would appreciate hearing from you.

We need to know the Rig you have – Make and Model Number for example Wouxun KG-UVD1P; TYT-800; Quansheng TG-UV2.

The idea for the September Meeting is to start off with a General Introduction of the various makes and typical models and to explain common features then to split up to a number of tables provided with 12volt Power and a Dummy Load where individual rigs can be explained or even programmed.

It is entirely down to you. You can E-Mail the Editor. g8det "AT" g0mwt.org.uk

John G8DET

CARS Training – Advance Course

CARS is now taking names for Intermediate licensees wishing to take the Advance exam on Monday 5th December at Danbury. Starting on Thursday 27th October until December 1st there will be a 'fast-track' six-week revision course at Danbury. This does assume you are largely prepared and have also been studying at home. Fear not though! The course is intended to clarify, guide and prepare you.

More information at: <http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/training/> . Please register your interest with Clive G1EUC.

President Jottings - August

I hope that you all enjoyed our tabletop sale last month and our thanks must go to Colin G0TRM for the organisation of the evening. Once in a while an evening without a talk allows us to have a good natter.

This coming month sees the Constructor's Competition so please bring your home construction project along and tell the Members about them, you never know you may win a prize. Any home construction equipment is eligible provided it was your own work.

Also by close of business that evening can you hand to me in writing any nomination for the "Amateur of the Year" shield, voting takes place at our September meeting.

Finally on the 14 August I have been licensed 50 years, so on that Sunday I am hoping to be operating and to make 50 contacts, one for each year, I would appreciate a call if you hear me on the bands.

Carl, G3PEM. President

For Sale – Co-ordinated by Martyn, G1EFL

MFJ Versatuner Model MFJ MJ-969 - £140.

Kenwood TS440s. - £300.

AR3000 Receiver. - £100.

There are lots of books etc.

Yaesu FT847. - £450.

NRD S25G Receiver. -£100.

Icom Receiver IC7000 - £400.

Midland 3001 Citizen Band Transceiver - £40.00.

For further info, please contact

Martyn. Tel 01245 469008.

For Sale – Laptop Computer

Dell Inspiron 6400 15" laptop with Windows 7 O/S - 4 years old, 130 Gig H/D, 2 Gig RAM, Battery 1 year old. **Bargain £95.** Tel: 07853 979 629 Email: m5aka@g0mwt.org.uk

Trevor M5AKA

CARS Nets

As can be seen on the CARS Web Site, CARS Nets have changed just a little in the past couple of months to being Repeater based for VHF with GB3DA on the second Tuesday and UHF with GB3ER on the third Tuesday in the month. The July Nets have had good attendances. The 19th July had Geoff, G3EDM @Little Baddow; Mark, M0IEO Canvey Island; Alan, G0RTH @ Basildon for the first round; Patrick, M0XAP @ Billericay; Patrick, G8JLM @ Heybridge near Maldon; Norman, M0FZW Canvey Island; Neil, G1OZU Ashington; Clive, M0GHH Chelmsford; David, M0BQC Chelmsford; Denis, M0FHA Chelmsford and John, G8DET Danbury as step-in Net Controller. The fact that this wide spread area could all communicate 100% gives the use of the Repeater a boost. The only serious consideration is to remember that there is an unforgiving short timeout on GB3DA, but a little longer on GB3ER. Thanks to all those above and to the many listeners.

John G8DET

And Finally:-

John G8DET edited this edition. Material by Trevor, M5AKA; Steve, G4ZUL; Gwyn, G4FKH; Carl G3PEM; Murray G6JYB and Colin, G0TRM.

Closing date for the next Newsletter – Thursday 25th August.