



# 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 548

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

November 2011

This Month's Meeting – Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> November, 7.30pm at the Marconi Club

## "Islands On The Air" (IOTA) by Martin Atherton, G3ZAY

CARS is privileged to have RadCom columnist Martin to come to Chelmsford to present this evening's interesting subject. He will describe the origins, philosophy and development of the IOTA Programme as well as the main awards and listings that are available today. In the course of doing so he will describe a number of his own expeditions to rare islands in the UK and around the World and talk about some of his favourite radio islands. He will also advise on how to get started in the IOTA Programme for people who have yet to take their first steps.

As Martin has such a following in RadCom as columnist of the IOTA Page, Radio Clubs/Societies near to Chelmsford are hereby invited to attend. Details on where MASC is are contained on the CARS Web Site. As the car park gets very busy it is suggested you aim to park by 7.15pm - you can get a refreshing drink from the bar - tell them you are going to the CARS Meeting. When you sign in, please tell Brian, G3CVI where you are from.

CARS will have its Famous Raffle run by Peter Graves, G0KSJ.

Please purchase a Raffle Ticket (or two!) - you may win a prize.

### Dates for your Diary

Tues 8, 15, 22 & 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	CARS Net Nights starting at 8.30pm local.
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> November	CARS Committee Meeting – Danbury Village Hall – 7.30pm. All welcome.
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Anglia TV – time to rescan again</b> - Mux D (ARQ B) changes frequency
Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	CARS Christmas Lunch – 12 for 12.30pm. Lodge Inn, nr Battlesbridge. SS11 7QT.
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	CARS Training Group – Advance Licence Examination at Danbury Village Hall.
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> December	CARS Meeting at MASC – 7.30pm - TBA
Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Essex Repeater Group AGM</b> - Danbury Village Hall - 7:30 for 8pm.
Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2012	CARS Meeting – By CARS Members – HF Tuners for M3s and M6s.

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

**Net Controller for Nov - David M0BQC**

**Thanks to John, G8DET & Patrick, M0XAP for October.**

## **Last Month's Meeting:- "Annual General Meeting" by CARS Members.**

The meeting opened with CARS President, Carl G3PEM presenting the certificates to the winners of the Constructor Competition, starting with the Special prize to Martin, G4TOO, third prize to Patrick, M0XAP, second prize to Peter G3SUY and first prize to Andy G1GKN, who also collected the M1FDE Trophy. Colin G0TRM was presented with his Certificate as Amateur of the Year for 2010. Harry G5HF was presented with his Certificate as a Life Fellow of the Society. Carl then announced that Martyn G1EFL had been voted "Amateur of the Year, 2011" and collected his Certificate and plaque.

Chairman John G8DET opened the meeting and recorded the Apologies and showed the running order of the meeting which was provided by Colin, G0TRM. He said it had been another great year for CARS. Last year we won the Amateur of the Year Award for Region 12 and this year the CW Club won it so keeping it in Essex. Congratulations to all involved, including a number of CARS Members.

John then listed the major events that CARS had been involved starting with the 2010 October AGM.

Novembers Meeting was WSPR Mode and 500kHz, 136kHz and 9kHz VLF by Roger Laphorn, G3XBM.

The Christmas Lunch was held in The Glades, Chelmsford and had Phillip Brooks, G4NZQ (now Board Member) and the Deputy Regional Manager to join us. The weather was atrocious but the food was good and we had a superb last minute Raffle.

December's Meeting was "The Joy of Contesting" by Mark Hayes, M0DXR – seems a long time ago he talked about a Station in the States with 12 of everything – remember?

January's was to have been Martin Atherton on IOTA but he was taken ill with a hernia which caused problems, so we saw the excellent DVD film on the British Radar – *The Spies who lost the Battle of Britain*. January also saw Carl's 80m Activity Contest for Club Members - to be repeated in 2012.

February's Meeting was Professor Barclay, G3HTF presented superb slides of his 2 years in the Antarctic.

Vice President Geoff G3EDM reminded the meeting that CARS had attended the Dengie Quiz and WON IT! – Congratulations.

March was a CARS Meeting which included Brian showing how to tune your Earth Lead and Re-Licensing your Licence. Carl was involved with Soldering. Mark tried CARS's SDR Radio and Peter Bridgeman showed Aerial Modelling.

April was to have been the Transmitter for Radio Caroline but interest by Ofcom and other Pirates caused it to be cancelled. Andy Tyler stepped in at the last moment with "Over the Horizon RADAR".

The end of April saw us at Sandford Mill for IMD using GB100MWT.

May was Astronomy by John Greenwood from Canvey. He showed a Telescope that thought for itself.

June was a Centenary Evening of the Birthday of Louis Varney, G5RV - one of the world's most famous Radio Amateurs (not acknowledged by the RSGB) – later we went to Sandford Mill to inform the World.

July was Colin, G0TRM's Evening – Quality Table Top Sale. Many goods changed hands and a good natter was had as well.

August was Carl's turn with the Constructors Competition, which we have just given out the Certificates.

August has seen us at Sandford Mill each Sunday Afternoon with SSB; CW; SSB and finishing with CW.

September's Meeting was the most complex of the year with Norman, M0FZW and Mark, M0IEO talking and demonstrating how to Programme your Modern Rigs and Andy, G1GKN showing how to control the Rig using Ham Radio Deluxe.

End of September saw us back at Sandford Mill for Science and Discovery Day with over 800 punters. Peter had his Lancaster Bomber 1154/1155 rig on 80m and Peter French had a 4m contest rig for the PW Contest. It proved Sandford Mill is a Black Hole for 4m as well as 2m & 70cm!

A great thanks to everyone involved – Applause.

It was then Membership Sec Brian, G3CVI's turn to tell us that we had over 90 paid-up Members – a great effort – well done.

He then donned his Treasurer's hat and told us we had some money in the bank and distributed a set of Accounts. These were Proposed and Seconded. The Subscription for the forthcoming 2011-2012 year was set at £12.00.

Mark, M0IEO stood in for the Training Officer Clive, G1EUC who does a superb job co-ordinating the Training Group at Danbury Village Hall. Mark said that they were half way through the current Foundation Course – Post Meeting Note – 9 out of the 10 candidates passed – very good effort by all concerned.

Chairman John then retired the Old Committee. Carl took the Meeting and proposed that all those Committee Members who have indicated they were prepared to stand again should be voted “en bloc” – seconded and voted in. As no-one wanted the job of Chairman, so John was voted in again.

David, G3SVI proposed that Peter Sipple, 2E0PSL should join the Committee – as Peter was not present there was a discussion whether this was legal but Mark, M0IEO said that he had discussed this with Peter and he was agreeable - Voted in. Post Meeting Note, Peter has since agreed to join and has attended the October Committee Meeting. Thank you Peter – nice to see a 2E0 on the Committee.

The Chairman closed the AGM at 20:40.

The RSGB DVD Film was shown of Carlos contacting the ISS during the Scout Jamboree in Hylands Park when a number of Scouts asked the Commander a number of questions. Thanks to the good sound provided by Colin, G0TRM everyone heard the inter-change, except maybe the two persons who talked through it. Thanks to David, G3SVI for suggesting this.

After the refreshment break Luke, M6LNT drew the Raffle.

John G8DET then showed a series of slides taken during 2010 and 2011 of CARS Members at work.

## **John G8DET**

---

### **Christmas Lunch - Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2011.**

CARS Members are hereby invited to the Christmas Lunch at the Lodge Inn on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 12 noon for 12.30pm start. Capacity is limited to the first 50 acceptances. We are in the Conservatory on our own and it seems very nice three Course Christmas Lunch for only £10 per head.

To book, fill-in the attached Booking Form and send it to Martyn, G1EFL with a Cheque made out to C.A.R.S., together with a Stamped (2nd Class stamp) Self Addressed Envelope for your Ticket(s).

As we have a number of CARS Members who live well south of Chelmsford (such as around the Canvey Island region) the Committee felt that a venue towards the middle of the A130 may be advantageous. The Lodge Inn is located a few hundred yards from the Rettendon Turnpike, and between the new road Burnham Road (dual carriageway) to South Woodham Ferrers (A132) and the old road, Woodham Road, in a single file lane called “Hayes Chase”.

Post Code is SS11 7QT. Tel 01245 320060. [www.lodge-inn.net](http://www.lodge-inn.net) - Look it up on Google.

If looking for it for the first time it is suggested you approach it from the Rettendon Turnpike and go on the new road, the A132. It is on the left, opposite the Caravan Park. Take care, as the local drivers tend to drive like mad!

If the weather is icy then approach it from the old road – it is just past and opposite “ Gardenholm” garden Centre and is on the right hand side. There are three speed bumps in Hayes Chase to the Lodge Inn. If the weather is too poor to get there it will be re-scheduled at another date at no cost to CARS Members. The CARS Web Site will state this at that time.

We should have a great Christmas Raffle with lots of prizes.

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

**5/6 Nov** – 144MHz Marconi – CW – 24 hrs

**12 Nov** – Club Calls – Topband – 20:00 to 23:00 hrs

**19/20 Nov** – 2nd 1.8 MHz contest, CW, 19- 01:00 hrs

**26/27 Nov** – CQWDX – CW – 48 hrs

**9 Nov**, 80m Club Sprint, SSB, 19-20:30 hrs

**12/13 Nov**, Japan International DX, SSB, 30 hrs

**24 Nov**, 80m Club Sprint, CW, 19-20:30 hrs

For further information please email Steve G4ZUL [contests2011@g0mwt.org.uk](mailto:contests2011@g0mwt.org.uk)

**Steve, G4ZUL**

---

## **CARS Propagation Forecast for this Month.**

<b>Asia: Dhabram</b>	around 14:00 on 28MHz for 96 percent of days, with fair signals.
<b>Oceania: West Samoa</b>	around 12:00 on 18.1MHz for 87 percent of days, with poor signals.
<b>Africa: Johannesburg</b>	around 20:00 on 10.1MHz for 88 percent of days, with poor signals.
<b>S. America: Buenos Aires</b>	around 08:00 on 10.1MHz for 89 percent of days, with poor signals.
<b>N. America: Saskatoon</b>	around 08:00 on 10.1MHz for 80 percent of days, with poor signals.

**Gwyn, G4FKH**

---

## **Sandford Mill - Science & Discovery Day on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2011.**

CARS were pleased to receive the following letter from Dr Geoff Bowles from Sandford Mill.

*Dear John,*

*Science Day*

*Thanks for all your help with our last open day of the season! We seemed to be unindated with visitors, with the parking as about as full as it has ever been – nearly everybody stopped to see both of the science shows, helped by Geoff's sound system which made Steve the presenter fully audible at last to an audience of over 200 a time, with over 800 people counted in at the gate*

*The CARS radio operators reported good atmospherics and a number of distant contacts. Colin treated an endless stream of children to the wonders of Morse Code machines and the Friends on refreshments made a record profit for Museum funds. Speaking of which, this was the last "do" at Sandford Mill for Annette and Mike, who have organised our refreshments for many years and we wish them well in their move to Sussex.*

*With the reintroduction of the August Sunday Afternoons and the new Marine radio displays to show off, we have had a busy season with very full attendences and a lot of good comments from our visitors. Thank you very much for helping us to keep the show on the road*

*Yours sincerely*

*Geoff Bowles  
Curator of Science.*

Note, CARS lent Sandford Mill its Radio Microphone which Geoff, G7KLV plugged into his amplifier.

Thanks to the Friends and Volunteers of Sandford Mill for their hospitality and to Dr Geoff Bowles and Trish for their involvement and the appreciative letter.

**John G8DET, Chairman.**

---

## **Foundation Course Success**

Congratulations to newly-licensed Radio Amateur Sarah Sipple, M6PSK, who passed her Foundation exam thanks to the CARS Training team in Danbury. As well as being one of the few female voices on-air in the Essex area, there is another reason why gaining a Licence was important. Sarah is the granddaughter of renowned Radio Amateur, Gordon ("Dick") Bird G4ZU. Dick, who sadly passed away in 2005, is best known in the amateur radio community for his innovative HF antenna designs, and is credited for the design of the Bow-and-Arrow Yagi, the Birdcage and the Minibeam. The popular multi-band "Spider beam" Yagi (a.k.a the Skypper), is also based on a design by Dick Bird, G4ZU. As well as being the Granddaughter of a famous amateur, she's

also married to one, CARS Member and newly elected Committee Member, Pete Sipple 2E0PSL. Sarah plans to be active on 2m in the Essex area, as well as operating using the HF data mode PSK31. Not only is Sarah's callsign an acronym for the PSK31 data mode, the initials PSK have another meaning - they stand for Pete, Sarah and Daughter, Kathryn. Hopefully the "K" from PSK may one day get her Licence too!

**Peter, 2E0PSL – See also <http://www.essexham.co.uk/>**

---

### **Essex Repeater Group 2011 AGM – Now Thursday Dec-8**

The Essex Repeater Group Annual General Meeting should have been on Thursday 13th October at the usual Danbury Village Hall venue - 7:30 for 8pm. This was to be the first AGM since the sad passing of ERGs Chairman, Mike Wheaton, G4ZPE – Zipy but unfortunately had to be POSTPONED. It is being re-scheduled to Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December (after the Advance Course) – watch the ERG/CARS Web Sites for details. As per recent years, the event will also feature a Members' raffle, FREE Refreshments and items for sale. It is of course an excellent opportunity for renewing subscriptions and offloading your own surplus kit.

**Murray, G6JYB**

---

### **Power Line Interference (PLT)**

The EMC Journal continues to support the fight against PLT with several interesting articles in the latest issue; it would be well worth CARS signing up for a free copy so that members can keep up with the latest developments. In this month's edition EMCIA (the EMC Compatibility Association) highlight how both OFCOM and the Government are ignoring the concerns of even the professionals. OFCOM still maintain that because there are a very few complaints from Radio Amateurs that the interference potential of PLT is being greatly exaggerated.

*Ofcom say: We have been maintaining statistics on PLT since July 2008. Up to the date of this statement there have been a total of 272 reports of interference attributed to PLT. Every report of interference concerns an inability to receive a transmission on the shortwave band and is made by Amateur Radio users. Ofcom endeavours to facilitate the resolution, normally by referring the case to BT. To date 223 cases have been referred to BT with the exception of one case they have all been resolved.*

Radio Amateurs must complain to Ofcom if their hobby is being disrupted by interference of any kind (especially PLT). I'm sure that country wide there are far more than 272 Radio Amateurs experiencing interference from PLT but don't want to upset the neighbours by complaining to OFCOM. Note that due to the increased workload all ordinary TV/Radio reception/interference issues have been passed to the BBC in the first instance – not Ofcom.

**Andy Tyler, G1GKN**

*and more on the same publication:-*

### **Professionals Against Powerline: The EMCIA gets involved**

The September issue of the EMC Journal reports that Downing Street and the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills (BIS) snubbed the EMC Industry Association (EMCIA) when it raised concerns about polluting PLT devices. It would appear that Government bureaucrats either cannot be bothered to answer concerns about PLT from a respected trade association such as the EMCIA or else they have something to hide. The Journal says that "*Over the last few years EMCIA members have become increasingly aware of the threats posed to society in general and to the EMC Industry in particular by Power Line Telecommunications (PLT).*", read more on page 5 and pages 7-9.

PLT also raises its ugly head in John Woodgate's column on page 18 and pages 30-33 have a good article '*Interference emission from small equipment: A measurement problem brought into focus by the testing of Power Line Adaptors*'.

Download issue 96 of the EMC Journal from <http://www.compliance-club.com/pdf/Issue96.PDF>

Other links:

UKQRM - fighting the radio pollution caused by PLT devices: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/UKQRM/>

Ban PLT website: <http://www.ban-plt.co.uk/>

**Trevor M5AKA**



## **CARS Training – Advance Course**

CARS is now taking names for Intermediate licensees wishing to take the Advance exam on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December at Danbury. Starting on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October until December 1<sup>st</sup> 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/>, which also has the dates for new courses in 2012. Please register your interest with **Clive G1EUC**.

---

## **President Jottings - November**

My thanks to all who worked so hard to make the year 2011 such a success.

The CARS Amateur of the Year has been chosen by the Membership as Martyn Medcalf, G1EFL. For all his effort on behalf of CARS I had great pleasure in presenting him with the Certificate and Plaque at the AGM.

Chairman John and the Committee have really worked very hard over the past year to make Chelmsford one of the leading societies in the country, but the committee is always looking for new ideas for talks, and visits etc. please put on your thinking caps and provide them with a few suggestion.

## **Carl, G3PEM. President**

---

## **Joining the RSGB**

I have had a letter from the RSGB asking for our help in getting new RSGB members. They will pay CARS £10 for each new member that we sign up and pay over £10 to the RSGB. If anyone is thinking of joining the RSGB, let me know and I'll send you a form. The form offers three-months **Free trial Membership** if you sign up for direct debit.

## **John G8DET**

---

## **CARS Nets**

As can be seen on the CARS Web Site, CARS Nets have changed in the past couple of months to being Repeater based for VHF with GB3DA on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday and UHF with GB3ER on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in the month.

The October's UHF Net was held on GB3ER with Patrick, M0XAP as Net Controller. GB3ER worked admirably with superb audio – thanks to those involved.

## **John G8DET**

---

## **Report on the Lightship Weekend – Carried over due to lack of space on previous Newsletter.**

Andy kindly invited CARS Members to join him on the Lightship moored at Tollesbury for the Lightship Weekend. This is his report:-

*The weather was hot and the tide not too high for our annual expedition aboard the Trinity Light Vessel 15. A whip aerial was secured to the helicopter deck giving us a good take-off to Russia, Europe and Brazil. We were using the CARS ICOM 756 Pro3, PSU and Tuner. Jim 2EØRMI; Peter 2EØPSL; Martyn G1EFL and James 2E1GUA climbed the lightship tower and tried the UHF bands, coming to the conclusion that their future lies in the HF bands - which were very busy. Using HF SSB we spoke to the Orkneys, Cornwall, Wales and all over Europe.*

*Andy GØIBN; Steve, G4ZUL and Rick G3YEC made CW contacts all over Europe, Russia and last of the 192 QSOs was to Brazil - proving that HF, especially on CW, is THE mode! Jim's wife, Ann, kindly supplied a brew of tea and coffee as required. This helped to making it an enjoyable day.*

*Come and join us next year on the River Blackwater.*

## **Andrew Kersey, G0IBN.**

## CARS Members Spam Attack

Although this email is aimed mainly at "BT Internet" email users, everyone can be affected sooner or later.

Geoff, G7KLV received a "begging email" allegedly from Ken, G0OSI to say he was on holiday in Madrid and had been mugged and as a friend would he send 2,650 Euros to pay his hotel bill and get a new flight home". A phone call to Ken proved he was still at home and therefore the E-Mail was a very plausible scam.

Dave, G3PEN visited Ken yesterday evening and E-Mailed as below.

*I called in on Ken Pallant, and he confirmed that he is in residence here and has not been to Madrid.*

*He has been using a wireless link, and had not realised that unless he "secured" his use of it, anyone could pick it up and break into his system. I expect that others on his e-mail address list have had similar messages! He assumed that his anti-virus software was enough protection.*

I received two copies of the begging letter later in the evening and then a much more worrying one – see below as follows: -

### **BT Internet Yahooo! Upgrade**

*This message is from BT Administrator IT Services to all our Yahooo subscribers. You are to provide to us the below information to revalidate your E-mail due to spam and to upgrade the new 2011/2012 antispam and antivirus version. Please Confirm That your BT E-mail is still active by filling out your login info below after clicking the reply button, or your E-mail will be suspended within 24 hours for security reasons.*

*User-name:-..... Password:-..... Date of Birth:-.....  
Country :-..... Current resident:-..... Sex:- .....*

**After updating your E-mail information your BT will not be interrupted and will be upgraded with the new Antispam and Antivirus for 100% E-mail protection. Thanks for your attention to this request. We apologize for any inconvenience.**

**Warning!!! BT owners that refuse to update his or her E-mail will lose his or her account permanently.**

Now these have been around for at least 10 years and if you look carefully you are requested to "Click on a link" which is never going to be anything connected with BT! NEVER EVER reply to these "Urgent Requests".

**Comment by CARS Member Roget Pettet, G7TKI:** Regarding security it's possibly worth mentioning that very many stock wireless routers, mostly those distributed with internet packages by ISPs come with utterly inadequate encryption out of the box. I've seen this mostly on various generations of BT Homehub routers but I'm sure they're not the only ones shipping with "64 bit WEP" encryption as standard.

64-bit WEP is common because the shorter codes are more convenient to type in. WEP as a security standard was cracked years ago. Even 128-bit WEP provides no additional security because the algorithms are fundamentally flawed.

The current best standard for home WiFi encryption is "WPA2 Personal" and should be well supported by any WiFi-enabled equipment purchased in the last 8 years or so.

It's also worth noting that no matter what sort of network transport you have - be it Wireless or wired, encrypted or unencrypted you should be making sure that connections to Email- and Web- services are encrypted using SSL or TLS (or even SSH) wherever possible. These settings should be available for most good ISP services but you need to manually check them in your E-Mail server settings and keep an eye on the "https://" URL and the padlock icon shown in the address bar of most web browsers when surfing.

It's also worth investigating two-factor authentication if your ISP supports it (Google Gmail does), but that's another subject. As usual of course keep your Antivirus up to date, but be warned that Antivirus applications are for trapping Viruses - they generally don't do anything about your Web surfing or email connections.

**Comment by CARS Member Rick Edmondson, G3YEC:** In the last two weeks I have received over eight begging letters one of which was from a Bank of which I have NEVER had an account with !! I simply dump all such without opening. I did inform my Bank of one of them but as always they stated that they never ask for my details by E-Mail or telephone.

**Comment by CARS Member Alan Elcoate, G0RTH:** As well as having a good secure password for a wireless network (using **WPA2 - Not WEP!**) it is advisable to limit the number of connections available from the DHCP server to suit the number of PCs you use and to have the allocations never expire so that even if someone got your ID/password then they can't connect to your network. (More technical members may want to limit this by using the MAC addresses of their PCs which means only those physical devices can connect.)

I thought BT had decent SPAM filtering which should prevent the phishing emails although a full Internet security package will include decent firewall/Anti Virus/Email protection and is a good addition to the ISP provision and doesn't cost too much. (I personally use Zone Alarm as I always found it had a very powerful firewall). Also, there are good free websites for running checks such as

<http://www.microsoft.com/security/scanner/en-us/default.aspx>

[http://www.f-secure.com/en\\_EMEA-Labs/security-threats/tools/online-scanner](http://www.f-secure.com/en_EMEA-Labs/security-threats/tools/online-scanner)

<http://www.kaspersky.com/virusscanner> <http://home.mcafee.com/downloads/free-virus-scan?ctst=1>

**Comment by CARS Member Nic Bown, M6BWN:** As a computer specialist, I'm more than happy to confirm what you say and to pass on the following general tips to members in the hope that they may be useful:

- Always make sure you use good quality antivirus software and keep it up to date. Free antivirus (with the exception of Microsoft Security Essentials) is generally very poor quality and not worth using.
- E-Mail is NOT secure; consider it as similar to a radio call as anyone can intercept it or send mail using your email address (in the same way they could use your call sign even though illegal!) So because of this:
  - Never send any personal information via E-Mail.
  - Never open any documents sent via email unless you are expecting them.

If any members want any help then I'm more than happy to oblige them. Unfortunately I'm not able bodied enough to visit them but they are more than welcome to pop in if they're near Brentwood.

Thanks gentlemen for these important comments.

**John G8DET.**

---

## **RSGB EGM Open Forum**

The RSGB has opened a web-based discussion group to encourage debate and questions about the Board's EGM proposals. The discussion forum is open to anyone.

The Extraordinary General Meeting will take place on November 19<sup>th</sup> at the NEC in Birmingham.

RSGB EGM page: <http://www.rsqb.org/EGM/>

Direct link to discussion forum: <http://www.rsqb.org/EGM/start-forum.php>

**Trevor M5AKA**

---

**For Sale** - I am selling on behalf of Bill Elliston G3TIQ who is having to give up HF.

ALINCO DX-70 HF+50MHz Transceiver.  
Above boxed with manuals.  
Desktop Mic. SJCD-308.

MFJ Versa Tuner II (HF ATU & Power/SWR Meter).  
BNOS Stabilised Power Supply Type 12/25A.  
Two speakers, various accessories and leads.

A complete working HF station, all tested and in good order. Only requires an aerial to get you on-air. £400.

**Contact Geoff G7KLV 01245-473822. or E-Mail to [geoffrey.lovegrove@sky.com](mailto:geoffrey.lovegrove@sky.com)**

---

**And Finally:-**

John G8DET edited this edition. Material by Trevor M5AKA; Steve G4ZUL; Gwyn G4FKH, Mark M0IEO; Murray G6JYB, Andy G0IBN and Andy G1GKN; Roger G7TKI; Rick G3YEC; Alan G0RTH; Nic M6BWN; Geoff G7KLV; Peter 2E0PSL and Carl G3PEM.

Closing date for the next Newsletter – Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November.