



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 556

Web Address: www.g0mwt.org.uk

July 2012

This Month's Meeting – Tuesday, 3rd July, 7.30pm at the Marconi Club “CARS Quality Table Top Sale”

By Colin Page, G0TRM and CARS Members.

It's July already and time for our usual summer time event, the CARS Table Top Sale. If it is too wet to cut the lawn, how about looking at all the unused radio or electronic bits and pieces that are lurking in the corner of your shack/garage/loft/greenhouse/wardrobe/under-stairs cupboard etc.

If you have something to sell, book a table in advance by calling Colin G0TRM. 01245 223835 or email: colinpage@ukgateway.net.

Not much to sell? - why not share a table. There is no table fee for Club members, but 10% of any proceeds would be appreciated for Club funds. (maximum £3)

If you do not want to sell something you could always raid the piggy bank and buy something! All Visitors with spending money are welcome.

The new book written by Tim Wander, G6GUX "**Marconi's New Street Works, 1912 - 2012**" will be featured and will be on sale at a special price for CARS Members.

CARS will have the famous Raffle run by Peter Graves, G0KSJ. Please purchase a ticket or two - helps pay for the room and you may even win a lovely prize.

Dates for your Diary

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|--|--|
| Wed 27 th June | TV – Sudbury Retune and Power increase |
| Saturday 7 th July | CARS Operating GX4WAB at Oaklands Museum - Olympic Torch passing through. |
| Tue 10, 17, 24 & 31 st July | CARS - Net Nights starting at 8.30pm local. |
| Sat 14 th July | CARS – Operating GX0MWT from Admiral's Park, Chelmsford in support of the CAMRA Beer Festival. 12 Midday to 6pm. All welcome. |
| Tuesday, 7 th August | CARS Meeting–“Constructors Competition” by President, Carl Thomson, G3PEM” |
| Sunday Afternoons in August | CARS Operating GB100MWT from Sandford Mill on Sundays 2pm to 5pm on the 5 th 12 th and 19 th . NB: NOT the 26 th August. All members of the public invited FREE. |

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.

May we remind you that if you have NOT paid your Subscription for this year you may be deemed to NOT be a Member of CARS and NOT entitled to a Newsletter etc.

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 E-Mail address, etc. E-Mail 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 July is Patrick, M0XAP. Thanks to Colin G0TRM & John G8DET who did it for June.

Last Month's Meeting:-

"The World's First Designed and Built Wireless Factory – New Street, Chelmsford" by Peter Turrall, MBE and John Yates, G1UZD.

Chairman John, G8DET opened the meeting by welcoming CARS Members and a number of visitors. He said that **Brian, G3CVI** was very worried in the morning as he could not get a reply from MASC but when he visited it he found a notice to say that as it was a Bank Holiday it would be open after 6pm. Panic over.

A number of Toasts were proposed which started with "**The Queen**" and followed by "**Geoff G3EDM and Sylvia's Diamond Wedding**". Then a Toast to "**Brian G3CVI and Pam**" followed by "**Chairman John, G8DET**". The Chairman then thanked **Colin, G0TRM** for providing such a good sound presentation for many years and proposed a Toast to "**Colin G0TRM**". John then said that Colin wished to pass the sound job to someone new from the CARS AGM in October - can **YOU** do it?

Peter Graves, G0KSJ had done the **Raffle** for a number of years and the audience thanked him with a good clap of appreciation followed by a Toast to "**Peter Graves**". Peter has also said he would like to step down due to age and health at the CARS AGM – again would **YOU** like to take his place. The Chairman then asked if anybody had a Birthday - no - but **President Carl, G3PEM** said he had been married that weekend for 45 years so the last Toast was "**Carl and Fran**".

Peter Turrall presented his famous slide show of **Marconi** with slides chosen to suit CARS commemorating the 100 Year opening of the **New Street Wireless Factory**. He started by showing a slide of the Marconi family home in **Bologna, Italy** which he had visited a number of times. Marconi had shown his apparatus to the **Italian Government** but they could see no future in Wireless so his Mother (from an Irish Whiskey family) brought her son to England and had an interview with **William (later Sir) Preece** of the **General Post Office** who could see some benefit in Marconi's apparatus.

Slides were shown of the progress Marconi made and the first Wireless factory in **Hall Street, Chelmsford**. Today's **Health and Safety** would have had a field day with the horizontal high level rotating wheels feeding the lathes below with open belt drives. **Managing Director Godfrey Isaacs** decided that the next logical progression after Hall Street was to build a new factory - the foundations were laid in January 1912 (well before the **RMS Titanic** sunk) and with 500 bricklayers laid 5 million bricks but completed it for June 1912.



New Street in 1912: Note the high wireless masts

On 22nd June 1912 Marconi chartered a special train to bring the 250 delegates of the **International Radiotelegraphic Conference** to Chelmsford to look over the new factory. They were duly impressed. Peter then showed how Marconi became involved with **Broadcasting** from **Writtle** and the formation of the **BBC** in London. He concluded his presentation by showing the more modern equipment manufactured in Chelmsford. For 11 years he occupied Marconi's Office in New Street and put a map up on the wall showing every Country Marconi had a presence. It is still there.

At the Break Time Peter provided a table covered with historic Marconi documents for CARS Members to see. After the Break Time the Raffle was drawn by **Luke** - thank you Luke.

John Yates then took to the floor to tell his involvement during his 40 years with the Marconi Company. He liked the friendliness of the company and that most of the Managers had started as Apprentices, besides being very good at their job they looked after Staff well - except for pay!

He became a Trade Union Representative and was proud that he was involved with introducing good working practices and ideas including the gradual reduction of working days during the last year of employment before retirement.



John presenting his involvement with Marconi's New Street factory

John told the story of how during the 1980s Marconi's took on a new Manager, Andrew Glasgow, known for his abrasive style of management, who during his time with the Company he sacked 22 other Managers including the Finance Director! He joined shortly the dole queue soon afterwards!



Peter listening to John Yates's presentation

A number of books written by **Tim Wander, G6GUX** "Marconi's New Street Works, 1912 - 2012" were sold at a special price for CARS Members. A number of CARS Members and Marconi Veterans feature in it. A very good read.

Thank you Peter and John for a splendid evening.

John G8DET

CARS Operating from Sandford Mill – 23rd June 2012.

On Saturday, 23rd June CARS operated from Sandford Mill for a Public Open Day 10am to 5pm where they had a CW station run by Gwyn Williams, G4FKH from Dr Bowles's first floor outer office. He was assisted by Andy Kersey, G0IBN and Steve Cocks, G4ZUL. This station used an antenna made and installed by Tony, G4YTG. 138 contacts were made on 7MHz and 14MHz around Europe and Russia. Best DX was N4VN and VO1SA.

Peter Bridgeman, G3SUY brought his Marconi 1154L TX and an 1155L RX from Danbury and installed it in the Marconi Hut. This was coupled via the CARS Palstar ATU to the now famous 80m Doublet Aerial supported over the water course of the River Chelmer. Brian Thwaites, G3CVI and Geoff Lovegrove, G7KLV had drilled new holes to bring the ladder-line feeder into the Marconi Hut and it worked well.

Contacts were made throughout the UK but as some lasted for 30 minutes there were more listeners than QSOs throughout the day. Most QSOs used AM but some were from a modern rig and Peter was able to say whether the Carrier Insertion was correctly engineered or not. The true AM quality was superb but at times deep QSB together with the "Luxembourg Effect" caused some problems copying signals – even on short (5 mile) QSOs. See CARS Web Site for photographs of the 1154L/1155L.

A visitor had installed and maintained the 1154/1155 in Lancaster Bombers during WWII and another lectured on them at RAF Yatesbury after the War during his National Service.

Many people discussed their experiences with both the CW and AM stations while a number showed photographs of their time with Marconi. Some Marconi equipment was donated to the Museum. It was nice to see so many CARS Members and the XYL of Les Turner, G4CUT and Les his son.

Vice Chairman, Martyn Medcalf, G1EFL and his wife, Val had a table and sold items of CARS merchandising and Tim Wanders book "New Street".

Publicity displays were provided by David G3SVI and Myra Davis, M0MYR who also greeted many of the persons who walked by the Marconi Hut.

During the morning Peter Turrall presented his talk about Marconi and New Street to be followed by John Yates, G1UZD who presented the Staff side of Marconi based on his 40 years with the company and as a Union Representative. After lunch John G8DET presented a slide show of Marconi and the construction of New Street factory to be followed by John Yates again. After question time Peter Watkins, M0BHY showed a lovely set of slides about the Bill Waters Collection and the four Wireless Rooms now on display opposite the Marconi Hut.

A special GB100MWT QSL Card designed by John Yates, G1UZD will be available to all who request one either by the RSGB Bureau or on receipt of a SAE Direct.

The venue was free to park and enter – and it is thought some 400 members of the public and former Marconi and RAF personnel turned up. Peter Baker from Essex Chronicle with his photographer spent time in the morning talking to all members in attendance.

A superb day with thanks to Dr Bowles and CBC for inviting CARS to attend.

John G8DET

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

2 July – RSGB Club – CW– 20:00 to 21:30.

7/8 July – VHF NFD – 24hrs

14/15 July – IARU HF Championships – 24hrs.

11 July – RSGB Club – SSB – 20:00 to 21:30.

22 July – 70MHz Trophy - !0:00 to 16:00 Hours Z.

19 July – RSGB Club – DATA – 20:00 to 21:30.

28/29 July – RSGB IOTA – 24hrs.

For further information please email Steve G4ZUL contests2012@g0mwt.org.uk

Steve, G4ZUL

CARS Propagation Forecast for this Month

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Asia: Dhahran | around 20:00 on 18.1 MHz for 84 per cent of days, with poor signals. |
| Oceania: Sydney | around 20:00 on 7.0 MHz for 62 per cent of days, with poor signals. |
| Africa: Mauritius | around 18:00 on 18.1 MHz for 88 per cent of days, with poor signals. |
| S. America: Rio de Janeiro | around 22:00 on 10.1 MHz for 84 per cent of days, with poor signals. |
| N. America: Anchorage | around 22:00 on 18.1 MHz for 71 per cent of days, with poor signals. |

Gwyn, G4FKH

President Jottings.

Once again thanks to our editor for space in the newsletter for this item. Last month's meeting was an interesting talk on Marconi and the New Street factory. After the break John Yates, G1UZD held the floor with some interesting tales from the works. I must confess that after working at Marconi Marine, Westway, for some 19 years then moving to the third floor, Space and Microwave Division, in the New Street Factory, I found the News Street works to be like a rabbit warren with all the different departments spread across the site.

On Saturday July 7th CARS is operating an Olympics award station on behalf of WAB, in the Oakland's Museum, I shall also be operating on the higher HF bands in support of this event, using SSB, and Gwyn will be running the CW, from his QTH. For my part I hope to start around about 1000 hours and work through the day till about 1700.

If anyone wishes to come and operate you will be welcome, bearing in mind that more than three people in my shack will be a crowd! If you think you would like to come along during the day see me at the July Society meeting.

Please also remember the Constructors Competition in August.

Next, the closing date for nominations for CARS "**Amateur of the Year**" is at the close of the August meeting, so please put your thinking caps on and hand me your nomination by then in writing.

Carl G3PEM, President

Olympic Torch – Follow it as a Radio Amateur – 7th July in Chelmsford.

CARS has been requested to operate to tell the World that the **Olympic Torch** has reached Chelmsford on Saturday, 7th July from Oaklands Museum, Moulsham Street, Chelmsford, when on Day 50 the Torch starts at the University at 6.57am and passes Marconi's Factory in New Street (which is why it is being smartened up) to arrive at Oaklands Museum at 7.25am. It then carries on its way to Harlow and ends up at Cambridge.

CARS have been allocated the Call-Sign **GX4WAB** for "**Worked All Britain**" for the day.

Torch Route on APRS. The 2012 Olympic Torch Relay route is being tracked on the Amateur Radio APRS system. To see it go to <http://aprs.fi/> and enter **Torch2012** in the **Track Callsign** field. The <http://aprs.fi/> site shows the position of Amateur Radio stations that are transmitting a beacon using APRS on 2m or 70cm

If you enter **Torch2012** into the **Track Callsign** field and then click on **Search** it will show you the current position of the 2012 Torch. If you zoom out you will see APRS stations over a wider area.

One major problem is car parking at Oaklands Museum – the BBC TV vans will be parked just inside Oaklands and occupy the 12 or so public parking spaces. CARS have been allocated 2 spaces for the operators who start off the day but they have to be parked by 6am! CARS Members can park in nearby Longstomps Avenue or Tesco car park but REMEMBER - 3 HOURS MAXIMUM in Tesco or a £75 Fine.

After the Torch moves away from Chelmsford parking should be better by the afternoon.

CARS is looking for Operators and Hosts at the Museum.

Trevor M5AKA

CARS Operating From Admirals Park Chelmsford – Saturday, 14th July – 12noon to 6pm.

CARS have been invited to operate and support the Scouts at Admirals Park, Rainsford Road, CM1 2PL. www.chelmsfordbeerfestival.org.uk

At 1pm there will be a New Orleans Jazz Band called "The Lady Killers" and at 3pm the "Sloe Gin Blues Rock Band" will play.

Chris Chapman, G0IPU and Peter Bridgeman, G3SUY will co-ordinate the CARS presence. A tent and a 70ft wind-up tower will be provided in a secure compound. GX0MWT will be used.

Sorry, but as with Oaklands Museum, car parking on site is not allowed except for the Operators cars initially and parking nearby is limited. Walk from the City Centre or use the 51 bus every 30mins until 7.30pm.

Entrance is FREE to CAMRA Members or £3 but contact Chris or Peter for details of how to get in for free as a CARS Operator.

Contact Chris on chris.chapman2008@btinternet.com or Peter on peter.g3suy@btinternet.com

Freeview TV

Don't forget – Wednesday 27th June - Sudbury Retune and Power increase at the same time as Blue Bell Hill in Kent completes its switchover

Murray G6JYB.

The Radio Amateur and Olympics 2m Usage

Ofcom has announced that a small block of the Amateur Radio 144 MHz band is to be used for the London 2012 Summer Olympic Games. The RSGB have issued the following announcement:

Following negotiations to minimise the impact on Amateurs, Ofcom has now announced that it will temporarily authorise a small block of 12.5kHz channels, ranging from 144.0125MHz to 144.1375MHz, for the period 27 July to 28 August 2012 only.

The frequencies to be used specifically exclude 144.0500MHz (CW Calling) and 144.1000MHz. Usage of this spectrum by Games users will be in the vicinity of London Olympic venues and will be limited to handheld equipment operating on a maximum of 5W output. Ofcom emphasises that use of Primary Amateur spectrum is only for the specified time period and does not constitute a change of usage.

RSGB Announcement

<http://www.rsgb.org/news/articlelinks.php?id=0369>

RSGB 2012 Olympic Pages

<http://www.rsgb.org/olympics/>

Trevor M5AKA

Also in 70cms, 2.3 and 3.4GHz

There are segments within several Amateur bands which Ofcom plans to assign to support the 2012 Games and their preparation; some use will also continue for a short time after the Games to support decommissioning of venues. This use will be in geographically limited areas between 28th June 2012 and 23rd September 2012. The frequencies affected are segments of the 70cm band, and 2.390 - 2.400 GHz and 3.41 - 3.44 GHz.

- *We do not require use of the whole of the 70cm band but we request that the following segments are kept free of Amateur signals in the areas identified in Annex A: 431 - 432 MHz, 432 - 433 MHz paired with 436.25 - 437.25 MHz and 438 - 439 MHz.*

Use of radio by Amateurs in the areas defined in Annexes A and B could cause interference to Games applications; it is also possible that higher power transmissions from outside these areas could cause interference. Consequently, to avoid the risk of interference to Games applications, we request that Amateurs do not operate within the frequency ranges identified in the areas defined in Annexes A and B, and that Amateurs ensure that any signals that could be received in these areas are negligible.

Individual Amateurs should assess if their transmission is likely to be received in the defined areas and if in any doubt please DONT operate within the frequency ranges identified.

There are a number of Amateur contests that fall within the period of the 2012 Games. We can accommodate these providing the Amateur activity is kept to the dates of 6th - 8th and 10th July, 4th - 5th August and 14th August, 8th - 9th and 11th September.

The use of GB3ER – The Danbury Repeater – this is OK to use as it is outside Ofcom Restricted Frequency range.

Ofcom have also imposed new criminal enforcement powers for the period and Chelmsford is NOW inside the Hadleigh enforcement zone – stick to HF – Ofcom are not using that!

See the enforcement map at <http://www.murray.niman.btinternet.co.uk/files/draftregs2.htm>

Notified by Patrick, M0XAP.

Want to know more?...

Murray gave a well-attended talk on all the Ofcom measures as well as the big special event stations such as 2O12L and 2O12W at W&S Open Day. Shortly after, he dashed to London and got soaked with a million others watching the Jubilee Pageant going down the Thames !

Datamodes – Ham Radio Deluxe

An Introduction to Datamodes Video is aimed at newcomers and provides an overview of the datamodes used in Amateur Radio. It was produced by Michael G0POT for the Newbury And District Amateur Radio Society (NADARS) Demonstration tent at the 2012 Newbury Rally.

Watch the video at - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dvUv9imGXmw>

Ham Radio Deluxe - <http://www.hrdsoftwarellc.com/downloads/>

Trevor M5AKA

For Sale

- Tandy Realistic type DX160 all band receiver: 150kHz - 30MHz late 1980s vintage, AM & SSB.
- Band spread on Amateur Bands. Perfect order complete with manual
- Matching speaker and phones. Ideal first receiver for young S.W.L.
- £35 ono. Can be seen at the Table Top Sale.

David Bolwell, G3JCM. Tel 01245 223591 (Danbury) or E-Mail bolwell@tesco.net

Sponsored Cycle Ride London to Brighton.

Thanks to all CARS Members who sponsored me for the British Heart Foundation, London to Brighton Cycle Ride last week. The total I raised was £278.00. It was a beautiful morning in Clapham and we were very excited about seeing over 1,000 amazing riders who turned out for the ride.

<http://www.londonbrightoncycle.co.uk/whats-it-like.aspx>

James 2E1GUA

Morse Classes at Danbury

Morse classes will be starting again on Thursday, 30th August 2012.

If you are a beginner you will be made very welcome. We can start you off on this great aspect of our hobby. If you would like to improve, or just encouragement to get on the air, please join us.

Instruction is also given on all aspects of CW - which include good manners on the air; how to have that CW chat; DX manners; Contesting and operating skills on the pump key and twin paddle keying.

Venue: DANBURY VILLAGE HALL, starting at 1900. Thu 30th August

Contact: Andy Kersey G0IBN, Tel: 01621 868347 or email g0ibn@kersey1.freemove.co.uk

Andy G0IBN

CARS Life Member – Harry Heap, G5HF

A phone call to Harry found him in good spirits but “More or less House Bound” to quote his words.

He said he could not really get out much so would appreciate a “Eye Ball to Eye Ball Contact” at his house in Writtle. Please ring before – 01245 421743 – a small bottle of milk, tea or coffee would be appreciated. He has good neighbours and a number of CARS Members look after him as and when required.

CARS wish Harry a Happy Birthday for the 16th July when he will be 95. Wonderful.

John G8DET Chairman

And Finally:- John G8DET edited this edition. Material by Trevor M5AKA; Steve G4ZUL; Gwyn G4FKH; Murray G6JYB; Carl G3PEM; Dave G3JCM; James, 2E1GUA; Andy, G0IBN & Patrick, M0XAP.

Closing date for items in the next Newsletter – Friday 24th July 2012.