



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 559

Web Address: www.g0mwt.org.uk

October 2012

This Month's Meeting – Tuesday, 2nd October, 7.30pm at the Marconi Club “Annual General Meeting by CARS Members”

Each year the AGM seems to come quicker than the previous year, or is it simply we are getting older and the year ratio to those past is less? Whichever way it is - October is this month and time for reflection and renewal of the CARS Membership.

Reports of the viability of the Club and the financial situation will be presented by those responsible.

Most of the Committee are standing again but there are a couple of duties which have to be filled. Someone HAS to provide and run a sound system or bring hearing aids for November's Meeting.

Ideas for next year are requested. After the AGM we are going to see a few more of CARS's Member Aerials at their home QTH, time permitting.

“CARS Amateur of the Year” Shield will be awarded.

CARS will have the famous Raffle run by Peter Graves, G0KSJ. Please purchase a ticket or two – it helps pay for the room and you may even win a prize. Peter will Staff the Raffle Table for the last time - please support him and the new Members taking over.

The Funeral took place on Friday 14th September 2012 of Harry Heap G5HF, CARS Past President at St Mary's Church Broomfield, Chelmsford. The church was filled with Family and friends – CARS was well represented. After the Internment there was a Wake in the Kings Arms nearby. CARS sends Ethel and his Family our Sympathy.

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 30 th September	Science and Discovery Open Day at Sandford Mill. CARS to operate AM, SSB and CW. 10AM to 5PM. See page 3.
Tuesday evenings: Oct 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd & 30 th .	CARS - Net Nights starting at 8.30pm local. 2m, 70cm, 1.947, 28.375MHz respectively. PLEASE PARTICIPATE!! Net Controllers Required Contact G0TRM
Wed 10 th October	CARS Committee Meeting. All Members welcome to attend
Thursday 18th October	Essex Repeater Group AGM, Danbury Village Hall, 7:30 for 8pm
Saturday 3 rd November	CARS Proposed Coach visit to Bletchley Park – see page 5.
Tuesday, 6 th November	CARS Meeting – Valve Evening by Louis Poli, N3OL and CARS Members

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 October is Mark M0IEO and Colin G0TRM Thanks to Patrick, M0XAP, for September.

Last Month's Meeting:- "Practical Aerials by CARS Members"

Chairman John, G8DET opened the Meeting by welcoming Members and Visitors.

CARS President, Carl, G3PEM then requested everyone to stand for a Minutes Silence in respect to Harry Heap, G5HF who died on Monday, 27th August aged 95.

The Silence was ended with Gwyn, G4FKH sending in Morse the message "*de G5HF = Harry Heap VA*", where VA is the prosign for "*The End*".

After the announcements Andy, G0IBN took the floor and explained that Aerials are "*Beauty in the Eyes of the Beholder*". He then showed a series of photographs to explain how his Aerial, a G7FEK is erected at his garden at Tollesbury which is just a few feet above Sea Level.

Brian, G3CVI then explained how a 300 feet long garden was suited to an 80m Doublet supported at the centre by a 40 foot high pole, such that it appeared more like an Inverted-V. It performed well.

G8DET projected a photograph of a pole supporting a 40m antennal and invited the audience to say where it was taken. One Member said "I am a Builder and I know" but others read the caption on the bottom of the photo and shouted out "*Germany*". It was indeed Backnang, Germany and the next photo showed the house of Peter, DK6SP. His support tower coming through the roof as is often done in Germany but rarely in the UK. On the top he has a 2m Vertical for local chat, under which was 70cm, a 23cm, a homebrew 6m and a 3-Element for 20, 15, and 10metres, plus a rotatable Dipole for 30, 17 and 12 metres. The whole Aerial assembly appeared to be fed by Open Wire Feeder.

The operator of the projection computer Andy Tyler, G1GKN then explained how to make a $\frac{1}{4}$ Wave Monopole Aerial that works on 2m and 70cm for the price of two pints of beer. The aerial was made out of old coat hangers and then the completed aerial was donated to the Raffle.

Mark, M0IEO from Canvey Island then showed in detail the make-up of his MA5B Aerial which is erected behind his house which is 35 feet BELOW Sea Level. He explained how his antenna is assembled and stressed that the drain holes must be in the correct locations. It has been installed since 2005 and outperformed the G5RV that it replaced.

John, G1UZD showed his MQ-36SR 3-element hybrid quad covering six bands which is used at his QTH in Wickham Bishops. Of Canadian design and manufacture, the aerial was assembled and then tuned by means of the adjustable spokes whilst on an 8ft pole in the garden, before being erected on the gable end of his house. He has worked 238 countries in the 9 years it has been in use. He then described the Cushcraft R6000 six-band vertical mounted on an upper balcony of the summer house in Finland where he spends some weeks in the summer each year. He marvelled at the fact that it tuned six bands with a very good SWR on each and did not need an ATU. He felt it had to have been designed by computer modelling. In six years of use he has worked 156 countries with it.

Gwyn, G4FKH was next, describing his recently erected G5RV Aerial in his garden. It is fed by a Ladder Line and a home constructed loading coil made from a 4" pipe with twelve turns of coax. The station is CW only from a Flex5000A and a FC902 ATU. He then projected the SWR results from 1.8MHz to 31MHz which showed that 3.5MHz was the only Band resonant, but that the ATU takes care of all other Bands. With this Aerial he has worked all around Europe, the following prefixes are from the more exotic stations:- 5B, 5C, 5N7M, 6V7S, 7O6T, 7Z1, A61, A65, CO8, JA, JY5, KH7, ST2, SV2, SV5, SV9, TA3, VO1, VK, and of course all around the USA, most of Canada, Russia and ex-USSR states.

RSGB Life Vice President and CARS Member, Peter Chadwick, G3RZP submitted by email a photograph of his 62 foot high tower near Swindon with a 4-element SteppIR HF Aerial mounted on it. He explained that his 40ft high VHF/UHF Aerial was "down" when this photo was taken. It would have shown a 17-element Tonna for 2m and a 19-element Tonna for 70cm.

Geoff G3EDM then showed a snowy photograph of his aerial tower assembly at Little Baddow with homebrew antennas mounted on it. With this arrangement he has contacted over 2700 Australian Radio Amateurs – this is about all of those that have a station capable of working the UK – it is in use daily.

Andy then played a Facebook Video sent in by Simon Wilton, G7HCD who now lives in Ontario, 70 miles from the Niagara Falls in Canada. Simon started by showing him holding a CARS Mug (well done Martyn, G1EFL), and then went on to show how he designed and erected a 5-Band Fan Aerial suspended between two large trees near his house. It was erected just before a large snow storm – but not before it snowed for two hours on him! A large metal bolt placed carefully prevents the fan aerial rotating in high winds.

The Break enabled plenty of social interaction – after which Luke drew the Raffle.

Carl, G3PEM then described his aerials mounted in his rear garden. He finished with a photo taken by a neighbour of a RAF Red Arrows aircraft that appeared to be flying below his aerials.

A visitor from America, Louis Poli, N3OL then showed a series of slides of his new underground shack and the power supply arrangement. This had two 12kVA distribution panels to prevent spikes upsetting the domestic TVs upstairs, watched by his Wife. He then showed some of his extensive Valve collection. Louis considered that if it "*did not get hot, did not glow and could not kill you – it was not exciting enough*". CARS have invited Louis to be part of the "Valve Evening" that will take place on November 6th.

CARS Committee thanks all those who took photographs and submitted them to the meeting – great evening with a lovely range of well-presented Aerials – Thank you all.

John G8DET

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

6 Oct – 1.2GHz to 2.3GHz Trophy–14:00-22:00 hrs

7 Oct – RSGB 21/28MHz – 07:00 to 19:00 hrs

10 Oct–80 Metre Club Sprint–CW–19:00-20:30 hrs

21 Oct – Second 50MHz – 09:00 to 12:00

27/28 Oct – CQWDX – SSB – 24 hrs

6/7 Oct – 432MHz to 248GHz IARU – 24 hrs

6/7 Oct - Oceana DX – SSB – 24 hrs

13/14 Oct – Oceana DX – CW – 24 hrs

25 Oct – 80 Metre Club Sprint–SSB–19:00-20:30 hrs

Steve, G4ZUL

CARS Propagation Forecast for this Month, prepared by Gwyn Williams - G4FKH

Asia *Dhahran* - around 16:00 on 24.9MHz for 96 percent of days, with fair signals.

Oceania *W Samoa* - around 12:00 on 18.1MHz for 85 percent of days, with poor signals.

Africa *Mauritius* - around 16:00 on 18.1MHz for 95 percent of days, with fair signals.

S. America *Lima* - around 08:00 on 10.1MHz for 75 percent of days, with poor signals.

N. America *Saskatoon* - around 08:00 on 10.1MHz for 81 percent of days, with poor signals.

See also Gwyn's excellent Solar Cycle 24 article in June RadCom, pages 67-69.

Gwyn, G4FKH

President Jottings

This is a sad month for the Society as Harry G5HF became a silent key. Harry had been President for 10 years before retiring and handing over his badge of office to me. It was a hard task to follow him and I shall miss his advice and humour.

Our last month's meeting on Members Aerials was extremely interesting with a large selection of wires and beams being discussed. It just indicates that novel aerial solutions can be found for any garden space.

As our AGM approaches it will be time to review the past year and to plan our programme for the coming year. So please come along to the AGM with suggestions of activities and talks that you would like.

It is your Society, so please help the Committee with suggestions.

See you all in October when we will award the "Amateur of the Year" Shield.

Carl G3PEM, President

Science and Discovery Day at Sandford Mill – Sunday 30th September 2012.

CARS are invited by Dr Bowles to provide "Live Wireless" at the Open Day, 10am to 5pm.

Colin, G0TRM will have his now famous Morse Table in operation on the Mezzanine Floor.

Weather permitting, Peter, G3SUY will have his tent and Marconi 1154 TX and 1155 RX on 80m at the bottom end of the Band.

Gwyn and the CW Team will be operating from Dr Bowles's outer office – if you want to brush up on your Morse this is the place to go. Brian, G3CVI will be fronting the SSB Team from the famous Marconi Hut from Writtle where Broadcasting started 90 years ago.

As we will be using GB100MWT for the last time possibly this year, visitors can send and receive a Greetings Message – come on all you ex Service people – have a go.

The Barn will be open and "*Friends of the Museum*" will be on hand to explain the many static displays.

Training Courses

All Courses are held at the Danbury Village Hall near Chelmsford on Thursday evenings between 7 and 9pm. Spaces are still available for the 2012 Advanced Refresher Course which starts on Thu Oct-25 for the Advanced exam on Wed Dec-5. If you would like more information on this or other courses, please contact Clive G1EUC. Help is required for Foundation Training Courses that are held by CARS twice a year! In particular for the practicals, which include HF and VHF operation, station-build, SWR and remote VHF operators. Ideally, anyone joining the Training Team, should be committed for the full duration of the Course! Contact the Training Organiser Clive G1EUC on Tel: 01245-224577. Mob: 07860-418835 Email: training2012 at g0mwt.org.uk See also our Training page: - <http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/training/>

Morse Training

Morse classes started again on Thursday, 30th August 2012 @ 1900hrs.

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 need 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. Andrew, G0IBN, also operates Slow Morse transmissions at 5, 7 and 10 wpm on 3550-3560kHz +/-QRM at 2015hrs (local) every Wednesday evening.

Message from Andy :- *"Many congratulations on passing the RSGB 20wpm test on Thursday, Colin Wilson, M1OCN and to you John Roe, G4IMS, on passing the 15wpm test. Just shows it can be done if you put your mind to it!! Again, very well done"*.

Andy Kersey G0IBN on 01621 868347 or g0ibn@kersey1.freeseve.co.uk

CARS Support Staff required...2nd time of asking.

Audio Reinforcement

For many years CARS Members have enjoyed listening to the Speaker at the Monthly Meetings. This has been due to the dedication of Colin Page, G0TRM who brings the Audio Equipment each month, sets it up with assistance and records the Meeting on an Audio Cassette for distribution as required. He has been advised to reduce his workload and hence has said he wishes to pass the job on to someone new.

Could it be YOU – or could you do it with assistance of your mate(s)? If no one steps forward bring Theatre Binoculars and brush up on your Lip Reading skills! Please contact a Committee Member and talk it over with them.

The Famous Raffle

For a number of years this wonderful Duty has been performed by Peter Graves, GOKSJ. Again he has been told to "take things easy" and therefore wishes to pass the Duty to someone younger.

Could it be YOU? If not YOU, could you do it with someone else?

It is a major event at each Meeting – giving away Prizes as well as bringing in some needed revenue to assist paying for the room hire.

Again, please contact a Committee Member and talk it over with them.

The Committee.

WD-40

This was created in 1953 by three technicians at the San Diego Rocket Chemical Company and its name comes from the project that was to find a "Water Displacement" compound. They were successful at the 40th attempt – hence WD-40. The Corvair Company bought it in bulk to protect their Atlas Missile parts.

WD40: softens silicone sealant, so that it can be removed easily from around a bath, etc. Leave for a few minutes after applying. John G4IMS.

Don't forget to ventilate the area if using indoors. *Any more uses? Tell the Editor.*

Thanks to the Maldon U3A for the above.

2MT - 2Emma Toc Calling www.writtlecalling.co.uk www.facebook.com/writtlecalling87.7FM

Writtle Church Bells filled the airwaves on 87.7 MHz on Tuesday, 11th September from Writtle Calling to be followed by Tim Wander, G6GUX telling the story of how Broadcasting started from Writtle 90 years ago. He had to stand on a stage in the open so it was good it was not raining. Trevor, M5AKA was the only member of the public to attend. Lottery Funding enabled a wooden structure to be erected in the field of the Agriculture College.

The content of broadcasting for the rest of the week was not always to CARS Members ears but this was so that by playing live speech and music PRS Payments need not be made. John, G8DET attended the last evening and enjoyed the Writtle Singers and Writtle Church Bells again.

John G8DET

CARS Visit to Bletchley Park - Sat 3rd November 2012.

At the September Meeting Carl suggested CARS run a coach to Bletchley Park on Saturday, 3rd November. 20 Members showed an interest. The Coach has been booked from Wicks at Braintree but few Members have told Carl they are interested now – why? Is it too dear? If we get sufficient support the price may come down and a refund maybe possible. We have had a good response from the University of the 3rd Age Maldon and Great Baddow, but CARS.....???????

Pick up times - Braintree Bus Park 0830am.

Chelmsford Victoria road coach stop 0845am. The coach stop is just by the taxi/car entrance to the railway station. Buses for the station stop in Duke Street, Park and Ride buses stop at this point and there is a multi-storey car park the other side of the railway line within a short walking distant.

We expect to arrive at Bletchley at 11am (short comfort break at South Mimms in both directions) depending upon traffic and leave 1530/1600 to arrive back about half past six.

Cost - £25 including Coach and Entrance to Bletchley Park – a bargain!

Refreshments are available in Hut 4 if you are not taking a packed lunch.

Could we have an indication if **you** wish to partake in this trip?

We **MUST** know soon if we have sufficient support for this venture.

If we do NOT have more CARS support, the trip will unfortunately have to be CANCELLED.

Please E-Mail Carl on franandcarl@carlthomson2242.plus.com

Once we know we have sufficient support we will issue a Booking Form etc.

We hope to have Ken, G0OSI driving the Wicks Coach.

Carl, G3PEM

New Amateur Radio Group - Thames Amateur Radio Group (TARG)

Having completed a successful launch day at Phoenix FM, Brentwood Centre, the Thames Amateur Radio Group (TARG) has announced monthly meetings.

The first meeting, 19.30hrs Friday 5th October 2012, will be a "Come and Meet TARG" evening. The Group is looking to recruit dedicated radio enthusiasts, whether they are licensed, aspiring Amateurs, or Shortwave Listeners. The Group is particularly keen to encourage and coach newcomers to the hobby. To this end future one weekend Foundation Courses have been discussed, and are a distinct possibility as the Group has registered RCF trainers. Couple this with follow-up training, covering correct operating procedure, radio programming, supervised hands-on operation and antenna installation TARG feels that it has a winning formula.

Meetings will be held at: Jubilee Hall, Waterside Farm Sports Centre, Somnes Avenue, Canvey Island Essex SS8 9RA - There is large free carpark. The hall is immediately behind and hidden by the main sports centre. Please make 19.30hrs Friday 5th October 2012 a red letter day in your diary.

Free refreshments will be provided. <http://www.thamesarg.org.uk/>

Norman Crampton, M0FZW 07899 803714 -- m0fzw@btinternet.com

And Finally:- John, G8DET edited this edition; Murray G6JYB, finalised it, made it a PDF . Distributed most by email; Geoff KLV posted the remainder. Material by Trevor M5AKA; Steve G4ZUL; Gwyn G4FKH; Carl G3PEM; Norman, M0FZW; John, G4IMS; Ken, G0OSI; Clive, G1EUC and Andy, G0IBN.

Closing date for items in the next Newsletter – Friday 26th October 2012.
