



Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society

Established 1936

Affiliated to the RSGB

President: Carl Thomson, G3PEM

Treasurer: Brian Thwaites G3CVI

Club Call Sign: G0MWT

Chairman: John Bowen G8DET

Vice Chairman Martyn Medcalf G1EFL



LOTTERY FUNDED

Newsletter No 569

Web Address: www.g0mwt.org.uk

August 2013

This Month's Meeting

**FRIDAY, 9th August. Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm Start.
Great Baddow Parish Hall, 19 Maldon Road, CM2 7DW.**

“Constructor’s Competition by Carl Thomson and CARS Members”

It is the time to show what you have made this year – be it a 1KWatt Linear or a 70cm Digital SSB Transceiver or an Aerial. Maybe you feel the 200 feet self-supporting tower is too big to bring along – fear not – CARS will accept entries (and have done so in the past) from still photographs to video clips.

The only real Rule is that it must be electrically SAFE.

Preferably it should be about Amateur Radio but providing you assembled it – enter it. Emphasis will be placed of designing it and making it at home in the shack or kitchen but even if you used a multi-million pound workshop – we want to see it or hear about it.

Carl, G3PEM will be your host for the evening - CARS Members will be judging the entries. Maybe something you have made after the April "Kit" meeting. Will it be you who walks away with the First Prize? First Prize is £12, then £10 then £8 with a £10 for the person who enters first or has not won a prize before.

G3PEM and James, 2E1GUA will staff CARS now famous Raffle, please support. See you there?

Dates for your Diary

Tues 6, 13, 20 & 27th Aug	CARS - Evening Nets starting at 7.30pm local time. See schedule below/Web Site.
Wed 14 th August	CARS – Committee Meeting @ 7.30pm in Danbury Village Hall – Not in The Bell!.
Thursday 5 th September	CARS – Training – Start of the 28 th Foundation Course at Danbury Village Hall.
Friday 13 th September	CARS – Meeting "The World of Broadcast Radio" by Pete Sipple, M0PSX.
Sunday 29 th September	CARS Science and Discovery Day at Sandford mill with the General Public. Opening hours 10am to 5pm. CARS will be operating CW (Morse) and SSB.

To be/remain a Member of CARS, send a Cheque for £15 – 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 Newsletters, etc.

Thanks to Geoff, G7KLV for sending the postal Newsletters – could it go by E-Mail to reduce our postal costs? Please inform Brian, G3CVI by E-Mail at g3cvi@g0mwt.org.uk of any changes to your callsign, postal or E-Mail address, etc. Only by YOU sending Brian your E-Mail address, can we ensure WE get it right!

Club Nets: Tuesdays 7.30pm (1st) GB3DA, (2nd) GB3ER, (3rd) 1.947, (4th) 28.375 (5th) 3.756MHz +/-QRM
NOTE – GB3DA is working fine now it is using CTSS Access only – well done ERG.

Net Controller is TBA.

Many thanks to Geoff, G3EDM and Patrick, M0XAP for July.

Last Month's Meeting: "Brief Training Update" by Peter Sipple, M0PSX and Preview for G100RSGB

The evening was split into two main sections, with an introduction from CARS Chairman John Bowen G8DET. To warm up the audience, the [Essex Ham RSGB Centenary Bletchley Park video](#) was played, showing what happened at the 5th July Centenary Day event at Bletchley Park.

Amateur Radio Training

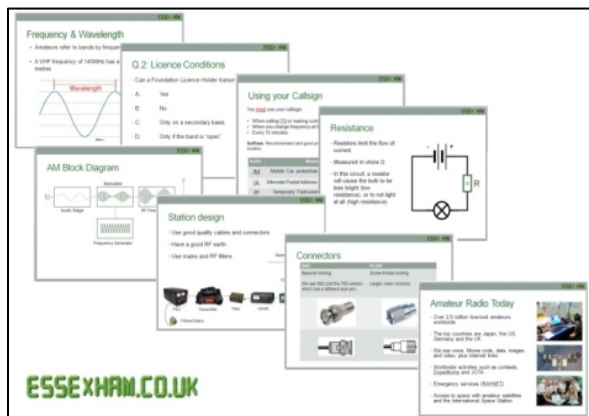
Essex Ham's Pete M0PSX was asked to present an overview of Training in Essex, plus details of new training material that has been created. He reported that 1600 Amateurs joined our ranks in 2012, but questioned whether this was enough?



Five of the fifteen Essex clubs offer Training, whilst ten do not. What goes into making Training?
– team, venue, process, exam and Training material.
Course structure and syllabus – what are we teaching & how.

Pete wrapped up with a short video that provides an overview of what they hobby is all about, and explains how to get on a Course and get a License.

Pete also discussed what is needed to run a Training course, and talked about his new [Foundation training slide set](#) (120 slides) that EssexHam has created to help teach the Foundation syllabus.



<< Some of Essex Ham's Amateur Radio Foundation Slides.

A lively debate ensued about the Training process, how to encourage people to progress from M6 to a higher level, and what roles clubs should play in helping newbies.

Hands-on with Logger32

The second part of the club night was a hands-on Training session. CARS would be operating the G100RSGB call-sign from Sandford Mill on Saturday (20th July) and from BAE Systems on Sunday the 21st July. Another station will be operating 6m and 2m.

As part of the rules of using the RSGB's Centenary Call-sign, electronic logging is mandatory, and CARS has selected Logger32 as the program of choice. As many CARS members were not familiar with Logger32, the second part of the evening was dedicated to allowing operators and loggers to get to grips with Logger32. Machines were set up with Logger32 installed, including a CW station set up by Gwyn G4FKH. Also on hand were Carl G3PEM and Colin G0TRM to give help and advice on using Logger32.



<< Gwyn G4FKH demonstrating Logger32 to John G8DET.

Chairman John G8DET reiterated a request to all CARS Members for help and support for the Centenary event – Operators and Loggers are needed, and are coming up in short supply. John said "If you are a CARS member, please consider lending your support either as an Operator or a Logger for G100RSGB on the 20th and 21st July."

Post Meeting Note – the request worked because a fair number of persons turned up and ran a very good weekend.

Peter Sipple, M0PSX.

Thank you Peter for providing one of the most interesting and thought provoking presentations this year. A number of those present said "Best evening for years". The informal Quiz was a great success.

CARS Operating G100RSGB – Saturday 20th – Sunday 21st July

The weekend proved to be unusually warm and the threatened thunderstorms did not turn up until the day after CARS were operating! Generally band conditions were poor, but there was the occasional burst of activity on 6m and 18MHz, while 7MHz on the Sunday was quite solid until about 4pm when local Spanish stations swamped us.

A great thanks to the many persons who attended, operated, logged, hosted and even made tea. Thanks to CARS President, Carl, G3PEM who undertook the concatenation of the many computer logs and sending them off to the RSGB without a hitch.

The CW (Morse) Sub Group.

Andy GOIBN on the key with Dave Ellis, G4AJY and Malcolm from Braintree looking on.



Saturday at Sandford Mill went off very well - we all enjoyed the day. A bit of a pity that there were not more Amateur's waiting for our call *but there was the usual Contest on.....*We CW crowd didn't do too badly, on Saturday - we had 152 QSO's, the furthest DX I guess was Japan and Western USA but a lot of quality in between. Many thanks to all those who assisted. One incident of note was when the IC756 Pro III decided to turn itself off, we figured this was because we were sending CQ more than working stations, and therefore the duty cycle went sky high and the rig overheated a little. All that was necessary was to turn it off for 15 minutes to allow it to cool a bit. *Post Meeting Note – Andy, G1GKN has it to have a look at – will report later.*

On Sunday, apathy set in as far as QSO numbers went, I managed 86 in a somewhat smaller timeframe. Throughout the two days we managed 32 countries, of which the ones previously mentioned were probably the most distant.

Thanks also to Dr Geoff Bowles for allowing us use of his outer office and the facilities.

Gwyn - G4FKH

The SSB Sub Group

Brian came in early on Saturday and got the 7MHz Station going with Carl, G3PEM on the computer logging. There was a fair amount of noise on the band but stations started to respond to our CQ Calls.

A number of Operators appeared including Geoff Mills, G3EDM and Patrick M0XAP – this was good to share the duty of Logging and Operating. From 11 to 12 midday the frequency changed from 7MHz to 18MHz but interference from the CW Station did occur. After lunch Lucy, M6ECG appeared and kept the pile-up going. Collectively CARS worked about 350 stations on Saturday from Japan to Chelmsford! While in QSO with a Braintree station the microphone was passed from Patrick, M0XAP to Malcolm from Braintree (who had popped in to see how we were doing) - much to the surprise of the Braintree station. Braintree had been G100RSGB earlier the previous week.



Lucy, M6ECG on the microphone with Patrick, M0XAP Logging with Lucy's friend looking on.
Carl, G3PEM keeping the "RSGB Alert" page up to date.

The Chain Home Tower Sub Groups

What an opportunity to operate from such wonderful location and with really good Aerials. Who else in the Country or World has an aerial supported from part the way up a 360ft Chain Home Radar Tower?

Preparation for Sunday started the previous week with the erection of a new 20m dipole to complement the 80m and 40m dipoles used on previous events by Andy G1GKN, Ashley 2E0CUR and Murray G6JYB. As Great Baddow is still an industrial site, permission had to be sought from BAE Systems and Risk Assessments written to cover the day's event.

Sunday dawned grey and cold compared to Saturday but Mark, M0IEO got his lovely caravan in position early and connected up to the 40m antenna hanging from the side of the 360ft Chain Home Tower - was this the highest G100RSGB Aerial?

CARS President, Carl G3PEM soon turned up and got the computers on and Mark called CQ. It was a little slow to start with but the pile-ups continued until about 4pm when propagation meant that Spanish local QSOs swamped us.

During the day CARS President Carl, G3PEM kept the RSGB "Alert" Web Site up to date.



40m caravan and the 20m Gazebo – Mike, M0MMB on the mike and Mark, M0IEO logging

The next station to get on the air was the adjacent 20m station under a gazebo - looking very much like a portable outing. Propagation on 20m was really appalling with lots of European and Irish stations worked and the best DX being a station from New Jersey.



John, G8DET turned up at 9am and set up another station, this time using the 80m aerial which Patrick used on this band and on 18MHz. It was slow going though but a number of very memorable contacts made it worthwhile - one with a Canadian Amateur who used to work at Marconi Baddow on Radar projects which Andy, G1GKN also worked on.

Ann, G1GKN's XYL brought sandwiches, cake and fruit for lunch which helped to refresh the operators, especially those operating in the caravan on 40m who were still working a big pile up.

After lunch new persons joined and all three stations were steadily working contacts - the 40m station clearly working the whole of the UK and Ireland - sometimes with FM quality and sometimes lost in the QRM and noise.

Patrick, M0XAP on the mike with Andy, G1GKN listening to the ex-Marconi Engineer in Canada

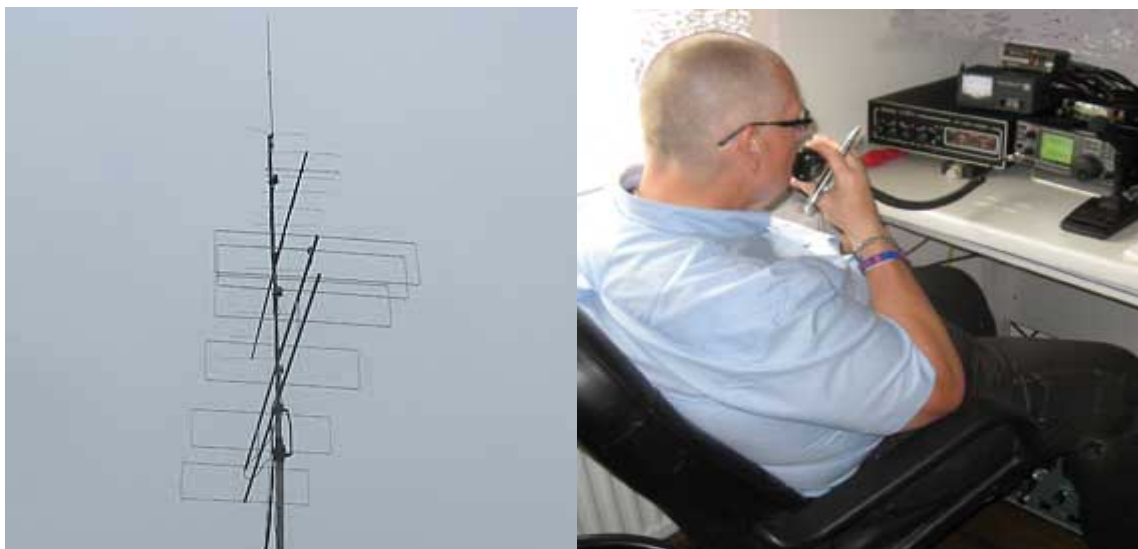
A great day was had by all, thanks to everybody who turned up and a special thanks to BAE Systems who once again let us operate from the 360ft Chain Home Tower.

Andy G1GKN

The VHF Sub Group

The RSGB requested operators of G100RSGB to try and include VHF so in a similar way that Gwyn, G4FKH organised the CARS sub-group for CW (Morse), so CARS Training Manager Clive, G1EUC organised the VHF station.

James, 2E1GUA reminded the editor that the photograph of him operating on 144.295MHz was not on the Web or the Newsletter! Sorry James. The antennas used for the G100RSGB activity on VHF were designed by CARS Hon Member Justin, G0KSC. When 6m was dead, 144MHz was used and vice versa. Photo shows James, 2E1GUA on the microphone working VHF.



Final Report

A total of 674 stations were worked by CARS during the 20th and 21st July – a terrific number of “non-Contest” style QSOs.

QSLing is the responsibility of the RSGB - please apply to the Bureau as per the RSGB Web Site instructions. <http://www.rsgb.org>

Thanks to all the persons involved at all of the stations - a great success from a great Amateur Radio Society
CARS wish good hunting to SEARS who are operating G100RSGB on the 7th and 8th August and TARG on the 9th and 10th August.

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

3 August–European HF Championship-SSB/CW–12hrs	3 August–144MHz Low Power–14:00 to 20:00 GMT
4 August–432MHz Low Power – 08:00 to 12:00 GMT	4 August–RSGB RoPoCo–CW 07:00 to 08:30 GMT
14 August–RSGB Club Sprint – CW – 19:00 to 20:00	29 August–RSGB Club Sprint – SSB – 19:00 to 20:00

Steve, G4ZUL

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

Asia	Dhahran - around 20:00 on 18.1MHz for 84 percent of days, with poor signals.
Oceania	Sydney around 20:00 on 7.1MHz for 63 percent of days, with poor signals.
Africa	Mauritius - around 18:00 on 18.1MHz for 88 percent of days, with poor signals.
S. America	Rio de Janeiro - around 22:00 on 10.1MHz for 84 percent of days, with poor signals.
N. America	Saskatoon - around 06:00 on 14.1MHz for 75 percent of days, with poor signals.

Gwyn, G4FKH

President's Jottings

July was a busy month for CARS, we had an interesting meeting and our thanks to Peter for bring us all up to speed on current Training and attempts to bring more people into our great hobby.

We also hosted the G100RSGB Call-sign and my thanks to all that supported the event at Sandford Mill and at the Chain Home mast site at Baddow, the weather played its part with two glorious days of sun.

We made 674 QSO's on the HF bands, 6 and 2 metres. One of the highlights must be Andy's half hour QSO with a station in Canada, the operator used to work on the Baddow site and knew the exact location of Mark's caravan. Once again many thanks to everyone who helped out on site and to Andy for the site and Mark for the operating caravan.

I updated the RSGB web site at regular intervals during the weekend and to highlight our final location my final spot was quote "Main site closed down and aerials removed from 360 feet chain home tower." Should get the others thinking!!

I have received some replies to my survey request. I have also had several verbal conversations; the main theme is that the Friday night is not the best night for a Society meeting. We are actively looking for suitable accommodation for a mid-week meeting in and around Chelmsford. There were also some suggestions for future meetings that I will put to the Committee. Don't forget the Amateur of the Year Award.

Carl Thomson, G3PEM, CARS President

RSGB General Manager Video

In this video the RSGB General Manager, Graham Coomber G0NBI, gives his vision for the future of Amateur Radio. Graham G0NBI gave the presentation at the [AMSAT-UK International Space Colloquium](#) on Sunday, July 21, 2013 and the video is now available in the Film Archive section of the [BATC](#) site. You can watch the video and other from the colloquium at <http://www.batc.tv/>

- Click on the 'Film Archive' icon, and Select 'AMSAT-UK 2013' from the Category drop down menu
- Click 'Select Category'
- Select the video 'AMSAT2013 09 RSGB'
- Click on 'Select Stream'
- Click the play icon '>' on the player
- Clicking on the icon to the left of the player volume control will give you full screen display.

You can also download the video file to your PC by clicking on the '[Click Here](#)' link under the player.

Trevor M5AKA

CARS Training Courses

Courses are held at the Danbury Village Hall near Chelmsford on Thursday evenings between 7 and 9pm.

The 28th Foundation Training Course starts on Thursday, 5th of September 2013 at the Danbury Village Hall near Chelmsford. The course runs for six consecutive Thursday evenings between 7 and 9pm. The exam date is 10th October 2013, and this will be the first time that CARS will use the new Optical Marking method for RCF examinations, as mentioned in the July Club night's presentation on Training by Pete M0PSX

If you know someone interested in attending the next Foundation course, please contact Clive G1EUC.

Contact the **Training Organiser Clive G1EUC** on Tel: 01245-224577. Mob: 07860-418835

Email: training2013@g0mwt.org.uk See also our Training page: - <http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/training/>

Morse Training – The Bell & Bistro, Danbury

Morse classes will commence on Wednesday, September 4th, at The Bell public house Danbury, starting at 7pm. Thereafter it will be on a Thursday evening during that month.

Details can be found on the Chelmsford ARS web page or contact Andrew, G0IBN, at g0ibn@kersey1.freemove.co.uk or telephone 01621 868347.

Due to popular demand there are now two classes: Andrew, G0IBN, tutors the complete beginner up to the RSGB 5 wpm test and on the correct use of the straight and twin- paddle key. Colin, M1OCN, helps those that wish to improve their CW speed; to boost confidence on the use of the Morse Key and to carry out CW QSOs with confidence on the bands.

If you have an interest in CW come and join us on the first evening and see if we can help you in any way.

Don't forget – The first Wednesday of each month, the other weeks will be on a Thursday.

Andy Kersey, G0IBN

Thames Amateur Radio Group (TARG)

At 19.30hrs Friday 2nd August, we have Laura Sanderson, M3LIQ on Photography and your digital camera. Full details can be found at:- <http://www.thamesarg.org.uk/news/>

Meetings are at: Jubilee Hall, Waterside Farm Sports Centre, Somnes Avenue, Canvey Island, SS8 9RA. There is large free car park. The hall is immediately behind and hidden by the main Sports Centre.

Norman Crampton, M0FZW T: 07899 803714; E: m0fzw@btinternet.com

Thames Amateur Radio Group (TARG) - 12.00hrs Tues 6th – 17.00hrs Sun 11th Aug 2013

CROWSHEATH FISHERY, HAWKSWOOD RD, DOWNHAM, CM11 1JT LOCATOR: JO01FP - WAB: TQ79 -

As the first TARG Camping event was so highly praised for its beautiful surroundings, low QRM/QRN and excellent RF take-off it is back by popular demand. During this time TARG is Operating G100RSGB.

Day Visitors are very welcome to come and join the fun but should bring seating and food. Tea & coffee will be available. Visitors pay £2.00/person/day, in cash on arrival. Fishing - TARG Concession for fishing is £3.00/rod/12hrs, payable at the Site Office.

G100RSGB - From 00.01hrs Fri 9th Aug to 23.59hrs Sat 10th Aug, depending on propagation and operator availability. G100RSGB will be activated as a field event from the above location throughout the period on 40m to 10m + 2m using various modes.

All Enquiries & Bookings via: Norman Crampton, M0FZW.

Email: m0fzw@btinternet.com Tel: 07899 803714 (No arrivals before 12.00hrs on Tues 6th August.)

Norman M0FZW - LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING YOU ALL

FOR SALE

- Transceiver TS 520 HF in Good Working Order complete with Mains 230 Volt AC operation - £50.
- Transceiver TS 530 HF in Good Working Order with Digital Display, complete with Mains 230 Volt AC operation. Fitted with narrow 1.8 filter £100.

Denis Lewis, M0FHA, 01245 440788 or joyanddenislewis@yahoo.co.uk

Waters & Stanton 40th Anniversary Open Day

Essex-based amateur radio retailer Waters and Stanton celebrated its 40th anniversary in style on Sunday, 28th July with the annual Open Day.

The warm weather ensured a good turnout with local amateurs gathering to have a catch-up, find a bargain, try to win a prize in the charity raffle, or catch one of the free technical talks given by Rob Mannion, Editor of PW and Murray, G6JYB. Read a report of the event and see the video at

<http://www.essexham.co.uk/news/waters-and-stanton-open-day-august-2013.html>

Trevor, M5AKA

Amateur of the Year Award.

The Amateur of the Year Shield will be awarded to the Club Member whom in the opinion of CARS Members has, in the past year promoted and contributed significantly to CARS and Amateur Radio in general.

Please **NOMINATE** a Member, together with a short citation, by the end of the August Meeting to Carl G3PEM.

Those persons **Nominated** will be published in the September Newsletter and Voted for during the September Meeting. The Winner will be announced, the Shield and Certificate given at the AGM in October.

CARS Famous Raffle – Please support the Raffle as it pays part of the venue hire charges.

And Finally:- John, G8DET edited this edition; Distributed most by email; Geoff G7KLV posted the remainder. Material by Trevor M5AKA; Steve G4ZUL; Gwyn G4FKH; Carl G3PEM; Murray G6JYB; Mark, M0IEO, Clive, G1EUC, Peter Sipple, M0PSX; Colin, G0TRM and Andy Tyler, G1GKN.

Closing date for items in the next Newsletter – Friday 23rd August 2013.