



Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society Newsletter

September Meeting

Tue 5-Sep-2017, 7.30-10pm

Oaklands Museum, Moulsham Street

Radio Caroline

By Keith Maton G6NHU

The September meeting of the Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society (CARs) will feature a very topical talk by members of the Clacton Martello Tower Group. They have been active recently on board Radio Caroline's Ross Revenge for a special event station using the call GB5RC celebrating 50 years of Offshore Radio.

Moored in the Blackwater near Bradwell-on-Sea, the Ross Revenge has recently undergone some extensive changes and refurbishment and continues to broadcast both online and on occasion via Manx Radio and recently with BBC Essex. Most recently it has obtained the use of 648kHz (the former BBC WS frequency). We will hear about the recent activities and plans for the future.



GB5RC QSL Card

The talk will be held at Oaklands Museum on Tuesday September 5th starting at 7.30pm

Visitors welcome. Free entry and parking.

The purchase of a raffle ticket is requested.
Refreshments are available.

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Club Diary

Tue 05-Sep-2017	Meeting: Radio Caroline	Chelmsford – Oaklands Museum, 7:30pm
Thu 07-Sep-2017	Start of 36 th Foundation Course & CW Classes	Danbury 7pm
Mon 18-Sep-2017	Skills Night returns after the summer break!	Danbury 7pm
Tue 03-Oct-2017	Meeting: CARS AGM & Awards	Chelmsford – Oaklands Museum, 7:30pm
Thu 19-Oct-2017	Essex Repeater Group AGM (inc Prize Raffle)	Danbury Village Hall 7:30 for 8pm start

Club Nets

CARS meets for talks/events on the first Tuesday of the month. The subsequent Tuesdays have club radio nets as follows:-

- 2nd Tuesday in the Month - VHF**
 The CARS VHF FM Net uses GB3DA from Danbury starting at 8pm (local).
 GB3DA is 145.125MHz Input and 145.725MHz Output - and CTCSS-only (110.9Hz), 2min timeout
 If for any reason GB3DA is not available then 145.375 Simplex will be used. Vertical aerials are best for this
- 3rd Tuesday in the Month - UHF**
 The CARS UHF FM Net uses GB3ER from Danbury and starting at 8pm (local).
 GB3ER is 434.675MHz Input and 433.075MHz Output - and is CTCSS-only
 Vertical aerials are best.
- 4th Tuesday in the Month - HF**
 The CARS 80m Net on "3756kHz" Night, SSB and starting at 8pm (local).
 Horizontal aerials are best. The idea is to enable distant CARS Members to join the Net.
- 5th Tuesday in the Month (when there is one!) - MF**
 This is the CARS Top Band Net on 1947/1950 kHz +/-QRM, LSB and starting at 8pm (local).
 Horizontal aerials are usually used for this Net. A reminder - limit your power to a max of 30 Watts, please.

Training Dates

CARS Intermediate Course-16 successfully concluded as planned on Thursday June 8th. Training resumes after the summer break in September with the 36th Foundation course and Morse classes.

Please note the following if either you are interested, or know some who may be...

Course	Dates	Comment
Foundation-36	Sep-7 to Oct-12	Register your interest now!
Advance Exam-20	Thu 7 th Dec	Registration for Advance must be 4wks beforehand. The session can also accept Foundation/Intermediate exam-only

Contact: Chris Chapman G0IPU, training2017@g0mwt.org.uk Web: www.g0mwt.org.uk/training

Morse Classes: These are run by Andy Kersey G0IBN at Danbury in parallel to the main training courses. They will re-start after the summer break on Thursday 7th September.

 Follow @TrainWithCARS

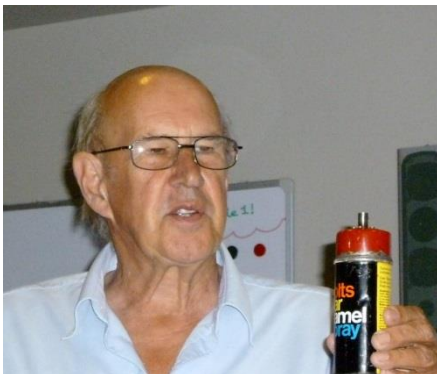
 Follow @ChelmsfordARS

August Meeting: Construction Competition

The August meeting was the annual time to show what had been constructed.- CARS accept all sorts of 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. We had five entrants covering a wide variety:-

1 John Bowen G8DET: John presented three items to illustrate how NOT to do things which might seem alright at the time...

- Dummy load in an aerosol can with sealed-in carcinogenic transformer oil. Would explode when hot and/or give you risk of Cancer
- Surge limiting of electrical components by an in-series filament lamp which could be switched out after the initial surge. (it had an illegal 13 amp plug which did not have shrouded live pins)
- Homemade small aerial with reflector and diamond shape elements to improve mobile phone range (but did not work!)



Dummy Load



Surge Limiter



Homemade aerial

2 Andy Kearsley G0IBN presented a small memorial to the RAF including a "bathtub" key, sounder and a model Lancaster.

Andy writes that the morse key was from a Shackleton and was an interesting piece of history, wasted on my shack shelf. It is a sealed unit, designed to be keyed in an explosive atmosphere - possible fuel fumes aboard the aircraft.

An interesting part of the key is a latch which can be clipped over the key knob to make the transmitter transmit continuously - should the plane have to ditch in the water shore stations could take a cross bearing to enable the RAF search and rescue boats to retrieve the pilots.

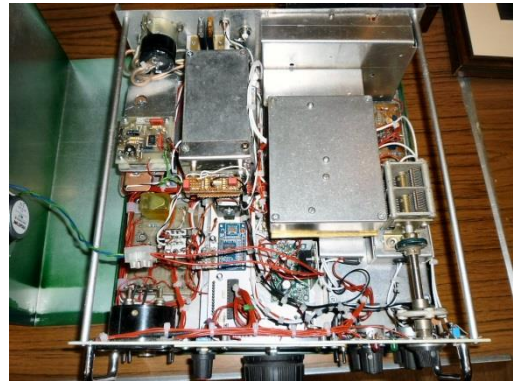
47,000 air crew were killed during the war, 4,200 wounded, numbers I find difficult to comprehend.

How was I to give justice to this key? Belonging to the local British Legion I have one ex RAF member who I knew would appreciate seeing the key in action. The "construction" part of the display is very limited, a basic morse oscillator.



The Shackleton I bought for £1 which I thought was a bargain. The stone extracted from a local stonemason's skip. The base was a Technics display unit from Currys.

3 Peter Bridgeman G3SUY: Peter had built a synthesised 80 /160m transceiver in a green metal case with a cream front panel. It was completed around six months ago to his design and construction.



4 Dave Bolwell: Entered a 6L6 valve amplifier for PA which he constructed some 50 years ago (with the help of Marconi's he said).

5 Colin Page G0TRM: Demonstrated some variometers Which are a coil with some of its turns on a smaller former placed inside so that it could be made to increase or decrease the total induction by turning it on a spindle. He added an aerial and a detector diode to produce a tuneable crystal set which he demonstrated with the use of an Audio Amp (Guitar type)



(4) Dave's Amplifier and (5) Colin's Variometer

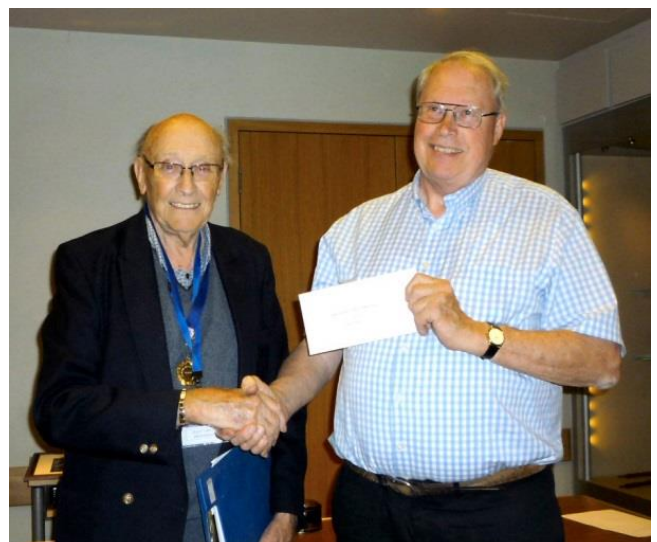
Results

During the tea break Tony G4YTG collated the audience votes. The result of the voting was:-

- **First:** A clear winner for Peter's transceiver (3)
- **Second** place for Colin's Variometer sets (5)
- **Third** to Andy's Memorial key base and oscillator (2)

The money prizes were presented on the night and the certificates will be presented at the AGM.

A happy Peter G3SUY receiving his prize from Tony G4YTG



Silent Key – David Davis G3SVI



It is with great sadness that we report that CARS member David G3SVI passed away on the evening of Monday 21st August. His regular support at numerous events and training/skills nights will be greatly missed.

David's funeral is on Wednesday the 13th of September, 12:20pm at Southend Crematorium, with a local wake.

Flowers from family only.

Amongst many other efforts, David was a joint recipient of CARS Amateur of the Year in 2014 with XYL Myra M0MYR.

Peter Davies M0PSD

Having just received the Get Well Card, I would like to say "A Big Thank You for everyone's Get Well Wishes".

It has been a long struggle over the last 18 months but their now appears to be a light at the end of the tunnel. I still have good days and bad days, but life with Cancer is like that.

I am now back on the Radio, I might even get on the CARS net. I have also just started driving again so you never know you may see me at club sometime in the future.

I wish everyone good health - Peter M0PSD

A Night to Remember


Expert Tim Wander is back in Chelmsford for another talk on Friday 8th September - 7pm for 7:30 start

He will tell the story of Marconi operators Jack Phillips and Harold Bride who stayed at their post on the Titanic

Galleywood Heritage Centre
Off Margaretting Road
The Common,
Galleywood
Chelmsford
CM2 8TR

<http://www.galleywoodheritagecentre.org.uk/>

Booking: info@chelmsfordcivicsociety.co.uk
(£4 on the door)



CHELMSFORD CIVIC SOCIETY
Charity No. 271779

June talk
sold out!


A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

A Fascinating talk
at Galleywood Heritage Centre CM2 8TR

Tim Wander, author and Marconi historian, will tell the story of the brave Marconi radio operators, Senior Operator Jack Phillips and Harold Bride, who stayed at their post to send the great liner's distress calls. In doing so they saved the lives of over 700 souls. Their equipment was built in Chelmsford at the Hall St works and they were partly trained there. Their story defines the legend that has become the Titanic. Tim will recreate the last moments inside the Titanic's radio room – and tell the ultimate fate of the men who proudly wore the Marconi Marine badge.

Friday 8 September 2017 @ 7.00 pm for 7.30 start

Where: Galleywood Heritage Centre CM2 8TR



To book, please email: info@chelmsfordcivicsociety.co.uk
and pay £4 on the door- refreshments available

info@chelmsfordcivicsociety.co.uk

Equipment Sale – Lower Prices!

Chris Chapman G0IPU is managing the clearance of a range of good condition items which are on a sold-as-seen basis. Full info is on our sales page at: <http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/society/sales.htm>

Item	Category	Manf	Model	Description	£ Guide
R1	Radio	Alinco	DJ-195	VHF FM single band handheld	£20.00
R2	Radio	Alinco	DJ-G5	VHF/UHF dual band handheld	£30.00
R4	Radio	Daiwa	SR-9	Search-9 VHF Receiver	£10.00
R7	Radio	Maycom	FR-100	Basic scanner	£15.00
R8	Radio	Telcom	Talkeasy-100	Pair of PMR-446 handhelds	£10.00
R10	Radio	Yaesu	FT-2800M	2m VHF Mobile	£65.00
R13	Radio	Yaesu	VX-2E	VHF-UHF Handheld 6M 2M 70cm	£30.00
R14	Radio	Yupiteru	MVT-7100	Multiband receiver	£20.00
R15	Radio	Yupiteru	MVT-7200	Multiband receiver	£20.00
S2	Speaker	BlueParrott	B250	Roadwarrior bluetooth wireless headset	£10.00
S4	Speaker	MFJ	MFJ-281	External Speaker	£10.00
S5	Speaker	Midland	70-2355T	External Speaker	£10.00
S6	Speaker	Moonraker	PMR-201	External Speaker	£7.00
S7	Speaker	SMC	SP2	External Speaker	£10.00
T4	Tuner	MFJ	MFJ-906	6m tuner	£50.00
T5	Tuner	MFJ	MFJ-941E	Versa tuner	£50.00
A1	Antenna	Diamond	MX-2000	2m/6m/70cm triplexer	£30.00
A3	Antenna	MFJ	MFJ-1736	6m J-Pole Antenna	£15.00
A5	Antenna	Moonraker	MRW-100	40cm long vhf/uhf antenna	£5.00
A9	Antenna	Watson	W-901	VHF/UHF BNC connector - 1	£5.00
A11	Antenna	Diamond	NR770RSFoS	VHF/UHF S0239 connector	£10.00
A13	Antenna	Unbranded (Oscar?)	?	VHF/UHF S0239 connector	£5.00
A15	Antenna	W3FF	BUDDISTICK	HF Portable Antenna	£80.00
A16	Antenna	W3FF	BUDDPOLE	HF Portable Antenna + EXTRAS	£150.00
F1	Filter	MFJ	MFJ-704	Low pass filter	£30.00
M1	Meter	AEC	SWR-50	CB SWR meter	£4.00
M2	Meter	Avo	Avo-8	Avo-8 inc case, flat battery	£60.00
M5	Meter	Watson	Hunter	10MHz-3GHz frequency counter	£40.00
J1	Microphone	Heil	iCM	Hand Microphone and stand/boom	£120.00
SW1	Switch	Watson	CX-201	2-way coax switch	£10.00
SW2	Switch	Watson	CX-201	2-way coax switch	£10.00
SW3	Switch	Watson	CX-401	4-way coax switch dc-500MHz	£25.00
X3	Misc	Yaesu	CD-15	Rapid charger adapter for VX5R	£5.00
X6	Misc	Maplin	N70AP	Flight Cases	£10.00
X10	Misc	unknown	N70AP	Flight Cases	£10.00
X11	Misc	unknown	N70AP	Flight Cases	£10.00
X12	Misc	unknown	tbc	Small rotator (1) - with 70cm 8 ele Yagi	Offers
X13	Misc	unknown	tbc	Small rotator (2) - No Controller	Offers
X14				Fishing Pole -1	£10.00
X15				Fishing Pole -2	£10.00

Baddow Mast

I have attached a photo that may be of interest for the CARS newsletter. Since I moved house from Great Baddow to Galleywood earlier this year, my cycle route to work passes close to the Chain Home tower at the BAE Systems site. The plaque shown in the attached image is located at the entrance to the Galleywood and Great Baddow Lawn Cemetery on Vicarage Lane, Great Baddow.



Best wishes, Peter Meadows M0ZBU

Editor: A pity that the Council as usual has messed up on its history – it's Chain Home – not Home Chain !

Morse Classes Starting Again

"EVERYBODY CAN TALK BUT CW IS AN ART" - Morse classes will be starting again at Danbury Village Hall, 7pm, on Thursday, 7th September, 2017. These classes are designed for the complete beginner or, if you have a little experience, we can help to build up your speed and confidence on the key. Instruction is also given on the use of the twin paddle key. Within 8 weeks - if you do your homework - we can get you on the key. Your instructors will be Andy, G0IBN, Oliver, M0WAG and Dean, G4WQI. Just bring yourself, a pen and an A5 size note book. It is a fun night - you will be made very welcome.

REMEMBER - THE CW BOOT-CAMP ON SATURDAY, 21ST OCTOBER.

Contact Andy, G0IBN on 01621 868347 or email g0ibn1@yahoo.com a photo

BBC Radio - Medium Wave Closures

Last month we had news of Freeview Digital TV Changes (more on those in a future edition). This month there is news that the Medium Wave network is also being thinned out as first announced in 2011 as part of the BBC 'Delivering Quality' programme.

The BBC has now confirmed that from January 2018, Medium Wave transmissions of a number of BBC Local Radio stations will either cease or be reduced:-

Full Closure of AM

- BBC Radio Sussex, Surrey, Humberside, Wiltshire, Nottingham, Kent, and Lincolnshire

Reduced Coverage

- BBC Devon, Lancashire and Essex

Apparently with most listening by FM as well as increasing use of digital online, and enhanced DAB coverage, the remaining listening on MW is now quite low.

At present BBC Essex is using three Medium Wave frequencies

- Manningtree, North Essex, 729 kHz
- Bakers Wood, Mid Essex 765 kHz
- Rayleigh, South Essex 1530 kHz

PS: Did you know that there is also 765 kHz for the Dartford Tunnel - it has a leaky feeder system for:-

- BBC Essex 765 kHz
- BBC Radio 5 Live 909 kHz
- Talk Sport 1089 kHz
- Absolute Radio 1215 kHz

Help Wanted !!

- **Chairman**
- **Newsletter Editor**
- **Newsletter Items**
- **PR Officer**



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Newsletter and Archive: <http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/newsletter>