

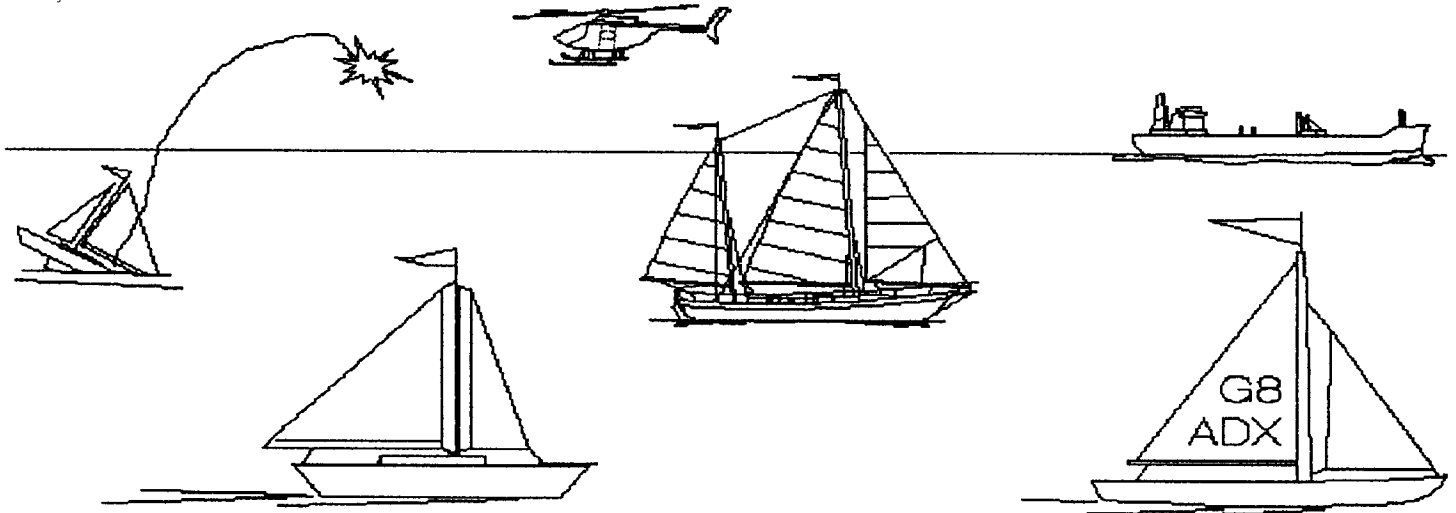
Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society.

NEWSLETTER No. 314

Callsign G0MWT

March 1992

NEXT MEETING - Marine Electronics



This month our good friend and club member Eric Lawley G8ADX will entertain us with an illustrated talk about his other hobby. . . . sailing boats.

Although both hobbies thrive on the latest technology the applications are very different because of the need for safety and reliability (no dabbling with the soldering iron!) also the fact that power is at a premium (no 13A mains socket when the battery goes flat!).

Eric will show some video clips during his talk and generally provide a fun evening.

The meeting will begin at 7.30pm in the Marconi College, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 3 Mar. CLUB MEETING - Marine Electronics - G8ADX.
- 7/8 Mar. LONDON AR SHOW - Picketts Lock, Edmonton.
- 14 Mar. RSGB NATIONAL VHF CONVENTION - Esher, Surrey.
- 7 Apr. CLUB MEETING - RTTY/Amtor Systems - G3EDM.
- 12 Apr. CAMBRIDGE AR RALLY - Chesterton, Cambs.
- 12 Apr. MARTLESHAM RS ROUND TABLE - tickets, G6GAU.

CONSTRUCTORS' COMPETITION

While we are on the subject of dates, may we remind you of Tuesday 2nd June, which is the occasion when members show their talents in construction.... How is your entry coming along?

COMMITTEE MEETING

The March Committee meeting will be held in the Telford Lodge at 7.30pm on Wednesday 11th March, you are welcome to join us.

MONTH ON THE AIR - E1a, G6HKM

If you want to be up to date with propagation information listen to WWV Boulder, Colorado on 10.0, 15.0 or 20.0MHZ at 18 minutes past each hour, with an up-date every 3 hours, from zero UTC. You can receive the latest figures for the Solar Flux, 'A' and 'K' followed by a report of solar activity, i.e. size and type of flares, the geomagnetic activity for the past 24 hours and a forecast for the next 24 hours. This information is most useful and gives a good indication when to look for best DX at MUF or even Auroras.

MORE ABOUT THE BIRD

The promised new element for 25 Watts in the range 100-250MHZ is on order and will be available shortly.

Bookings for the meter should be addressed to Roy, G3PMX, who will issue the unit, bearing in mind that priority must be given to any applications to the preparation of 1992 Field-Day and verification of the performance of our FT-747-DX Transceiver.

LAST MONTHS MEETING -

A CURRENT TOPIC - Charles, G0GJS

A very interesting talk on certain aspects of First Aid given by a true professional provided this month's Club lecture. Kevin Matthews, Superintendent of St. John's Ambulance Division, Chelmsford, demonstrated and discussed the emergency treatment of electrical burns and resuscitation. He stressed that he was not teaching the meeting First Aid as this would require us to take the structured courses - litigation these days meant trouble for the initiated.

On the subject of burns, Kevin put them in two classes, minor and major. With minor burns only use cold water; on no account apply any creams or ointments as they seal in the heat. He classified a minor burn as a wound which required a 2.5cm. square sterile dressing or less. For major burns again use cold water applying as is practicable, but on no account attempt to remove clothing which may be adhering to the area of the wound and of course, get help to enable the victim to be treated as quickly as possible by the professionals. With electrical burns always remember to check for the point of contact exit as well as entry.

Kevin chose to use the analogy that electrocution causes a malfunction of a human being's electrical system. Some 60,000 people die of heart attacks each year and Kevin was of the opinion that a third could be saved if proper resuscitation techniques were applied. When discovering a body connected to electric power immediately switch off the source of supply or use a non-conducting object to disengage the subject. Make the area as safe as possible, DON'T BECOME A VICTIM. Remember, ultra high voltage accidents (viz. fallen overhead power lines) can create high earth fields which can cause fatalities.

Using a dummy Kevin demonstrated some of the techniques used in victim recovery.

>>> More >>>

He showed how to lift the head back 16 degrees (having checked that there is no spinal injury) to clear the airways, then check for breath and chest movement. After removing any obstruction, including false teeth, he then advised breathing normally into the subject's mouth - don't blow them up like a balloon - at a rate of 12/16 times per minute. After two breaths check the pulse which, on Kevin's insistence, had us all reaching for the jugular veins of our neighbours! Combined with the mouth-to-mouth information we were informed of the techniques recommended today for heart massage. The need for urgency was stressed as the brain will commence to die (there is no recovery) if it is starved of oxygen for more than three minutes. Some reassurance was given concerning AIDS and Hepatitis B. Apparently 2 pints of saliva would have to be consumed by the resuscitator to become HIV positive, but of course direct blood contact was high risk.

A call for a volunteer to assist in demonstrating the recovery position was answered with great spirit by our past Chairman and within seconds we had "wall-to-wall" Brian. With much skill Superintendent Matthews had Brian quickly turned and laid out in a format he hadn't experienced for some time, namely the foetal position!

An interesting question and exchange of information period followed. If you suffer an electric shock no matter how insignificant you consider it to have been, do inform someone and think seriously about contacting your doctor. John, G8DET told of a BT colleague who suffered a hefty belt, was thought to have got over it but collapsed and died later in the day. On the subject of RF burns several of us can still recall that distinct pungent smell. The writer has a personal recollection when, as an Apprentice at Cranwell, for a very short microsecond he became a dummy load at the RF output terminal of the T1087!

Our thanks to Kevin for a most informative evening.

MEMBERS NEWS

The Society extends a welcome to Fred Ott who joined at the last meeting, Fred is a newcomer to the hobby and will appreciate any help in short wave listening.

DF NEWS - Dick, G3WHR The Snowman, Sunday 26th January

This was a two station event with Roy Emeny G4JAC/P and Peter Larbaestier G4TEB/P as hidden stations. Both signals were clearly audible at the start by the Church at Long Melford. Roy was a particularly strong signal, either he was using a kite or he couldn't be far away. The bearing on Peter went towards Sudbury and the river Stour.

I decided to locate Roy first and went about 3 miles West to Glemsford for my second bearing, this and a subsequent bearing gave a cross in the middle of Stanstead Great Wood. The approach to the wood was complicated by a 'closed' road in Stanstead Village.

Before I could get into the wood I was joined by Andrew, G4KQE who had managed to park a little closer.

We both adopted the same woodland technique - run along a path until the bearing is 90 degrees, then go in, experienced df hunters avoid going diagonally; another transmission brought us close to Roy but the signal had gone off before we reached the aerial. This was to our advantage because we then searched out the thickest cover without any distractions. I found one area quite impenetrable and went right round a large fallen tree to find Roy hiding underneath. Then I learned that I was the second person to find him, Andrew had got there first. I made good time back to the car and followed Andrew back through Stanstead, we travelled in convoy down to Sudbury.

Here it was decision time, there is no road bridge over the river Stour between Sudbury and Bures - a distance of 5 miles. I decided to try the West bank and was relieved to obtain a bearing which confirmed a site near Lamarsh. There were two likely places but my next guess was not so good and I wasted a transmission by being in the wrong wood.

I then arrived at the correct wood to find Andrew's car already parked. A short run along a footpath and down to a stream brought me to where I could hear the sound of determined bushbeating, Andrew was in the thick of it. It's a curse to those of us who wear glasses that strenuous activity can cause them to steam up. This happened to Andrew, and necessitated a wipe clean. With crystal clear vision restored he found Peter just 6 feet away - and me with a smile from ear to ear.

The tea was chez Pat and Mike Hawkins at Great Cornard, with catering on a bring-a-bite basis. Pat kept us well supplied with cups of tea while we waited for the results.

Many thanks to our snowmen Roy and Peter, and to Pat and Mike for hosting our tea.

Results

	A	B
1 Dick Brocks	2.03,58	2.54,20
2 Andrew Mead	2.10,50	2.54,30
3 Mike Hawkins	3.21,40	1.51,30
4 Philip Cunningham	3.30,42	2.15,40
5 Richard Witney	2.57,45	3.57,00

The 1992 DF season will soon be with us. There's no local RSGB event this year, but I don't expect that will stop some of us from qualifying for the Final.

We have also arranged a programme of local events throughout the summer. DF is best experienced first-hand - to join in, just turn up at the start wearing some older clothes, you will be most welcome. Alternatively, ask me for details at a meeting, I'm happy to talk about DF for hours - I remember last year when Mike Hawkins hid in a cow pasture and the cows came up and ate

NEXT MONTH we will publish the list of dates for the 1992 RSGB HF DF Contests

THE CLUB 10 METRE NET

The 28.325MHz SSB net, which is held at 8.30pm on the Tuesday's between club meetings is still available for members to exchange news and views.

73 from Roy & Ela Martyr, G3PMX & G6HKM

Tel: (0245)360545 1, High Houses,
Mashbury Road,
Great Waltham,
Essex, CM3 1EL.

P.S. Please send us some input for the Newsletter!

MEMBERS ADVERTISEMENTS

WANTED

Gents bicycle - any condition. If you know of one in need of a birthday or good home please let me know. Richard, G4ICP. Tel.No. 0376-84478.

FOR FREE

Harry Lowe, G2HPF would like to remind all members that he has a collection of the American Magazine QST for dates between 1967-1977. If any member wants to look back for references, please contact him otherwise they must go to the dump! Tel.No. 0245-467584.