

Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society

Affiliated to the RSGB.

Club Call Sign: G0MWT

President: Dick Brocks G3WHR

Chairman: John Bowen G8DET

Secretary: Charles Shelton G0GJS

Treasurer: Brian Thwaites G3CVI

Newsletter No. 389

June 1998.

Silent Key Roy Martyr G3PMX

On Wednesday 6th May a group of family, friends, colleagues and Club members, totalling nearly a hundred, gathered in the church of St. Mary and St. Lawrence at Great Waltham for the funeral of Roy Martyr. The service was conducted by the Revd. Canon Michael Proctor and the address was given by the Revd. Walter Mills. A number of Club members were surprised to learn that he was none other than Wally G3MCO, who gave a brief but moving account of Roy's working life, his family life and of his many achievements in his numerous hobbies of which amateur radio was but one. His life was dedicated to attaining perfection in every sphere.

Ela's wreath incorporated Roy's call sign G3PMX and was dedicated to 'My Chief Engineer'. Amongst the flowers was a wreath from CARS.

Roy was buried at Braintree and his children and some friends attended at the Committal. Ela and their grandchildren returned to High Houses to welcome friends and family. Those who had accepted Ela's invitation enjoyed an appetising, and seemingly inexhaustible, selection of refreshments replenished from strategically located containers in the dining room!

Later in the afternoon Ela and her close family went to the Cemetery for their last farewells.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Ela and her family in their sad loss.

The June Meeting

You've got less than a week left to finish your entry to the Constructors Competition to be held on **Tuesday 2nd June at MASC Beehive Lane**. The meeting will open at 7-30 sharp. The judges tell me that the deadline for entries is 8-45 which will allow the late comers a reasonable chance. Remember last year when one member arrived at eight? Sorry I'm late, I was just finishing my entry, he explained! In an attempt to show that the whole event is not rigged by "The Committee" a volunteer from the floor, Bob M0CMY, will join the team of judges, Colin G0TRM and John G8DET, to see fair play! As usual there is a glittering array of prizes to be won! First, second and third prizes are £10, £7 and £5 and there is also a prize of £5 for any first time winner. Competitors will be asked to give a short talk on their entry and to provide a short written description of their masterpiece, together with call sign, for the benefit of the judges and the subsequent Newsletter report. Please be advised that it is not obligatory for contestants to treat the judges in the bar, but it does help!

COME ON, HAVE A GO, YOU'VE STILL GOT TIME..... JUST!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

31 May S&DRS BOOT SALE - Southend A1159
2 June CLUB MEETING - MASC
14 June NATIONAL RADIO RALLY - Eivaston Castle
20 June RSGB HQ OPEN DAY
28 June LONGLEAT AR RALLY - Longleat, Wilts
5 July HARLOW RALLY - Mark Hall Sch. (A414)
First Avenue

A Letter from Ela G6HKM.

We would like to thank everybody for their help and kindness over the past and present difficult times and were very touched by the large presence of Radio Amateurs and friends who attended Roy's funeral.

I hope to return to Club meetings again in June and to settle down to operating again on 6M and 2M, with restricted antenna's (or aerials!) once a new QTH has been found.

On behalf of Wendy, David and Denise thank you all again,

Ela.

Committee Mtg: Wed. 10th. June

The next Committee Meeting will be held at the QTH of Ela G6HKM at 7-30PM. You are welcome to join our deliberations.

Members News

Welcome to our new member Dennis Prothero, who is an SWL.

Dick Brocks G3WHR has kindly agreed to become President until the end of the Club year in October.

Internat'l Marconi Day - Pat G0SBQ

Another successful operation was undertaken on the 25th April and our thanks are extended to all those Members who assisted in the operation and, to the ever helpful, Dr. Geoff Bowles for his permission to use the Museum facilities.

An early start was made on the rather damp previous Tuesday, changes this year being:

- a) the shortening of the full wave 80m dipole to 1/2 wave
- b) the tapping of the pole which supports the 80m aerial and the long wire to provide a 20m vertical loaded against wire radials.

It is not yet possible to assess the results of a) as operation was restricted to 80m SSB and 40m CW and, of course, as an official IMD station we are not actively seeking DX but providing a contact station.

A total of 582 mainly European QSO's were logged, of which 468 were made using the Club rig operated for 24 hours.

The vertical provided our best DX contact with 5Z4RL and although Tony G3YTG could not complete a QSO with the Australian IMD station VK2IMD, Geoff G3EDM reported that they did hear us S2! Conditions were reasonable on the HF bands with Flux of 92.

The Club received good media coverage on TV, radio and local newspapers. Live TV coverage from the Museum had been shown on BBC Look East.

A team of four took over four hours to rehearse for a three minute live TV spot. A fascinating insight to the business of TV, but what about that for cost effectiveness John Birt?

Borough Emergency Planning Centre - Colin G0TRM

On Tuesday 5th May a visit was arranged to see the Chelmsford Borough Emergency Control Centre at the Civic Centre in Fairfield Road.

Our host was Mr. Kelvin Ward, the Borough Council Emergency Planning Officer. During the visit which lasted some two hours he discussed his work and the plans in place to cover the many possible emergencies that could occur.

Kelvin explained the need to have at his fingertips information on all manner of specialist services and personnel, be it heavy cranes, pumps, generators or scientific knowledge.

Very many organisations have a specific part to play in a major incident. The Police, the Fire and Rescue and Ambulance services, are supported by many volunteer groups such as the Red Cross, St. Johns Ambulance, the Salvation Army, the WRVS, the parish councils and many other volunteer bodies including Raynet amateurs who all have a role to play. How they are summoned and co-ordinated was explained and an excellent short video presentation was given showing many of the most recent accidents and the services involved.

Communications naturally play a vital role at a such an

incident and numerous standard PMR sets are installed in the centre as well as an amateur radio set-up. Recently promoted Nigel G7ZVV, was on hand to tell us about Raynet's involvement in the scheme of things and told us about the many and varied types of equipment in use. More and more these days, packet radio is being recognised as one of the best means of sending vast amounts of detailed error free information between the various departments.

The general opinion of the twenty or so members who attended, thought the evening to be most interesting and informative and well worth the time and effort involved.

Our thanks to Kelvin Ward for a well prepared and presented talk and also for the generous flow of coffee and biscuits. Thanks also to Nigel for the part he played. I understand the ranks of Raynet are to swell somewhat when Chris G0IPU and sons become fully paid up members. Possibly other club members may have been smitten by Nigel's enthusiasm and join him one cold night on a river bank somewhere!

I would like to thank all those members who were able to support the event and to Chairman John G8DET for his vote of thanks to our host.

Our thanks to Colin for organising such an interesting event which was in lieu of our normal Club meeting because the MASC could not accommodate us on that particular evening.

Las Month's Meeting - Andrew G4KQE

Jan, G7UVP kindly brought along his computer system to the meeting and had spent many hours preparing a most interesting presentation on the "Beginners Guide to the Internet", using the 'Powerpoint' computer/OHP slides. He started by giving us a brief introduction to his Internet experience, saying that he had been using TCP networks for a number of years, been on the Internet for four years and using the TCP standard on the radio for three years.

Children today have grown up with the Internet, and to them it is no more unusual than a television set. Businesses are also starting to give E-mail addresses, and a modem is now just as essential as a letter box!

Basically, the Internet is a collection of computers linked together, it is free to use, (but not free to get in!), and free from controls. It started in 1965 when two computers were linked together. In 1974 TCP/IP was established as the standard, and in 1988 the Internet got it's first (bad) publicity, with the nasty Internet 'Worm'.

In the early days, up to 1990, the Internet only consisted of a method of file transfer, remote logins, electronic mail and news (discussion) groups. What really caused the explosion and the greater interest was the introduction of a method of linking documents called Hypertext Markup Language (HTML). This means that you can 'click' on certain items on one page, and be taken quickly to another page, maybe in another part of the world!

Jan then demonstrated using downloaded files, his computer and overhead projection system what the Internet can do for you. There are millions of pages of information on every subject under the sun, libraries of files, E-mail facilities, Newsgroups, and you can even listen to broadcast stations from all over the world. Video technology is coming, but the pictures can be a bit jerky at present.

Most of the Internet consists of 'pulling' information from the system, but 'push' technology is just starting to appear. This

means that you can, for example, log on to the BBC news site, and whilst you are working on something else, the news page will constantly be updated and displayed to you, with the updates being 'pushed' out without you having to ask for it.

There are several ways of finding your way about on the net. The Internet Provider will present you with a 'Home' page, and then you just click on parts of the page, and are taken, using HTML, to other pages, one after another, of your choice. This can, however, lead you down blind alleys. Several 'Search Engines' are available, whose job it is to find useful information. If your search is too broad, however, like asking for 'football' the search engine will find far too many pages of information to be of any use. It is better to be specific on a subject. The Universal Resource Locator (URL) is the page address, and enables you to go straight to the page of your choice.

Once you have found a 'site' that you would like to go back to at a later stage, the Internet software in your computer will often enable you to store 'favourites' to make a return visit quicker.

Having described the Internet, Jan then gave us some tips on 'Netiquette'. When using E-mail, it is obviously best to read what you have typed before sending it, and DON'T SHOUT - use capital letters. To add a personal touch, some 'smilies' can be used, such as :-) or :-o. E-mail can be sent in a variety of ways, either one to one, or one to many, but this is also a good medium for advertisements!

Having told us all about the Internet, Jan then told us how to connect to the system. Obviously a computer is required, together with a modem. There are several Internet providers who will link you in, and Jan had some CDs from a well known provider for those who wanted to give it a try. Once connected up all you need is patience! You do not even have to be at home to be on the Internet. A notebook computer or even a palmtop can be connected to a mobile telephone, so you can be on the Internet wherever you are!

Of course, not only can you get information from the net, but you can also create a 'Web Page' and send it to the Internet Provider, so that others can visit your site and see what you have to say or show.

To round off the evening, Jan demonstrated some interactive animated graphics that he had downloaded, which were quite impressive, with a little animated wizard introducing various parts of a new piece of equipment. This caused quite some amusement amongst the audience, as Jan could ask the wizard to sing, and when Jan had not used the mouse or keyboard for some minutes, the wizard would go to sleep!

Jan gave us a most interesting and informative talk, with excellent slides and demonstrations, and I am sure that there will be a few more people 'Surfing the Net' before too long.

Stop Press - DF News

Andrew G4KQE, Phil Cunningham G0NXH and Mike Hawkins G3WMM have qualified for the DF Final in September. Full details next month!

Roy Martyr G3PMX - Geoff G7KLV

We will all have our own particular memories of Roy and I have asked a few Members to give their own particular memories of him. I do hope no offence will be taken by those who were not asked.

You will see that three particular facets of Roy's character are mentioned again and again. His unfailing help and advice

to those in need. His constant pursuit of perfection in all his activities. His devotion to Club activities.

In this latter respect the old adage 'Behind Every Successful Man There Is A Woman' is certainly true and he has been loyally supported by Ela! When he actually joined the Club is lost in the mists of time but there is a story attached to his first attendance. This must have been in the early sixties and he apparently came away from that meeting as Secretary!

Ela's meticulous records, starting in 1966, show that he was elected a joint Vice President in November 1972, under the Presidency of another long serving and respected member, Ron Ferguson G4VF, who retired in 1977. Roy was elected President.

For over twenty years Roy had worked untiringly for the benefit of the Club and I'm sure he would have agreed that he has been loyally supported by many very capable senior officers, but his has always been the firm, but steady, hand on the tiller.

It is absolutely typical of him that when I volunteered for this job he gave me much help and support although he was far from well at the time.

I would like to quote a few lines from Wally's address at the church:

Let us remember that Roy always looked forward to the latest technology and it's possibilities.

He never never dwelt unduly on what had passed, nor would he have us do so.

We should look back with gratitude and forward with hope!

Roy Martyr - Tom G4INM

'One of Nature's Gentlemen' is how I would describe Roy Martyr. His unfailing good humour and willingness to help everybody was one of his outstanding qualities. On the 21 Net he was always there to give advice and it was always good advice. He could put his finger on the problem with the scant description that we always gave.

His unstinting work for CARS was legendary. He was untiring in his work for the members. All of us will remember the components that he brought to the Club for the benefit of the members. He was custodian of the Society's radio equipment, which he kept in tip-top condition. He gave of his time unstintingly, always willing to help.

It was with great sadness that I heard of his death. I felt a great sense of loss which will stay with me.

We shall never see the like of him again.

Roy Martyr - Geoff G2AMQ

One of Roy's qualities from which we all benefitted was the thoroughness in which he went into any new subject which interested him. The subject of batteries, in their many forms, interested him and he became the CARS battery guru to whom we all turned in time of need.

Another subject in which Roy developed an abiding interest was the Personal Computer and in particular Desk Top Publishing applications. Fortunately he was able to keep himself up-to-date in both hardware and software developments as well as peripherals. All these he used, together with Ela's help, to CARS benefit in producing a newsletter of the highest standard.

But amateur radio remained his central interest and he was no 'figurehead' CARS President. He ran the 28MHz Club net to great effect, and was invariably a contributor to the subjects

under discussion. Although he had to pull out from running the net when he became ill he remained a keen contributor to the "28", "21" and "Backnang" nets until the end.

I have an abiding memory of the last CARS Committee Meeting at Marconi College last December when, just before the meeting closed he took a photograph of the Committee in session with his digital camera and talked about 'putting the light out for the last time'. We have all benefitted from knowing Roy, let us not put out the light on his memory

What a pity we are not able to publish the picture of that historic switch off in this issue!

Roy G3PMX - Arthur G3KPJ

I first met Roy in the early fifties at BATC meetings at Mike Barlow's QTH. In those days he was more interested in amateur TV than voice communication. So much so that he said he would not be bothering with any frequencies below 144 Mc/s. We knew when he had passed the RAE and the Morse test and were waiting to see what his call sign would be. By this time I had been appointed chairman of the 'Shaving Club'. One morning Roy's voice appeared saying "The postman's come". When I invited him to tell us what the call sign was there was a long silence and then a rather tongue-tied Roy appeared to tell us that it was G3PMX. Note that this was on Top Band!. So much for his earlier thoughts on the LF bands! It was several years later that he finally appeared on 2m.

We were not aware that he had been building a Top Band TX while awaiting his licence but having seen it, it showed what a perfectionist he was, as it not only worked well it looked good! It later did good duty as the hidden station on Club DF hunts.

Roy was largely responsible for the design of the Top Band DF receivers that many people used to such good effect. He spent a long time with a Q-meter finding the optimum size and position of the coil on the ferrite rod aerial to give the best Q. This gave best rejection of MW broadcast signals and gave me very good service in local and national events for over 20 years.

In our early days as a Society (which evolved from the earlier RSGB group) Committee Meetings were held in member's houses and I can remember those held at Second Avenue. I seem to recall the audio set-up had a concrete drain pipe loudspeaker systems in the corners of the room! When investigating for a change of QTH I believe that one possible site was rejected because power lines ran close by. The final choice was certainly a good one!

We all owe Roy and Ela a big debt for the Club newsletter. When I was Secretary all members got was a short memo saying when and what the next meeting would be. This later evolved over the years under Andrew KQE's guidance until Roy took over editorially in 1986, having been responsible for production prior to that. With the computer revolution and Ela's help they developed it into it's present form.

When Ron Ferguson retired as President of CARS in October 1977, Roy succeed him. He succeeded in all senses of the word! Roy recently announced, due to advancing years, that he wished to retire and enjoy membership of the Club without Presidential responsibilities but, alas, this was not to be.

Roy - Tony G4YTG

Radio active,

Outgoing,

Young at heart,

Meticulous in everything,

Amiable in adversity,

Responsible,

Trenchant,

Your expert engineer,

Ready with any assistance.

CARS will miss him greatly and so shall I.

Roy G3PMX - John G8DET

It was with great regret that we learnt from Roy at the February CARS Meeting that he had just come from the Consultant and that he had been diagnosed as having cancer.

This was Roy at his best, straight and honest even when the news was not what one would want to hear. It was only a few weeks earlier that he visited me when I was in hospital and he talked about the pleasure of being able to take things a little easier and fully enjoy retirement.

This was not to be.

I came to Chelmsford in 1970 on promotion to BT Headquarters in London and a new G8. I came to a couple of CARS meetings and was soon enrolled. In those days Ron Ferguson G4VF was the President, a role which Roy took on when Ron retired. I was made Treasurer and enjoyed Roy & Ela's company at the Committee Meetings.

Roy steered the Club from strength to strength in a gentle way - he did not believe in doing too much too quickly - what a lesson for many firms to have followed. The Committee were worked but not too hard. At that time Roy was heavily into Test Equipment at Marconi and this led to a number of enthralling evenings for me looking at state-of-the-art test equipment which could measure power and check for spurious emissions.

Roy was a true Engineer - a Technician in all aspects of engineering. When he encountered something he did not know about, it was not long before he had found out all about it, and the good and not so good as well. With his lathe he could turn up all kinds of intricate threaded items required to improve an item or solve a problem.

When he retired he took up home computing with a succession of different machines - the spin-off being more sophisticated CARS Newsletters. Soon colour appeared for special occasions. The culmination of this was when he joined the Internet - this gave him access to the World Metrological Service in Geneva and enhanced his own very keen weather forecasting. He made a number of bold buys but they usually turned out very wise in the event. Examples include his digital camera and the Mini-Disk, both gave him great pleasure.

A true English Gentleman - I never heard him get angry - he will be greatly missed by all who came to know him throughout the world.

Roy, Early Memories - Ken G3PMW

Roy has been a very good friend to me for 46 years, very helpful, very co-operative and always ready with advice and practical help in making whatever was needed. We first met when I had completed my Grad. Apprenticeship with MWT Co and I was appointed to the High Power Transmitter Dept. in Building 46. The then Chief (Bill Morcom) put me with the Test Equipment section - "to learn the ropes" - before going on to the big transmitters, and Roy was part of that section. In 1952 test equipment was limited, so the section had to develop new test methods as well as carrying out the repair and maintenance of the existing items. The section leader and I were designing the new equipments. I had been interested in "wireless" from the age of 12, Roy's first interest was in "audio" through his father. I moved from test equipment to TV and FM sound transmitters, while Roy stayed with test equipment. He did have a period of working directly with us on TV, when he was part of the Commissioning Team installing our products. He was part of the team setting up the first Band Three TV system for the IBA. His high spot was in Poland, doing the same, a very tough assignment. He then reverted back to test equipment.

This work on TV and one of our TV colleagues (Mike Barlow) turned Roy's attention to amateur TV, and he took the Radio Amateur exam in the summer. Our closeness developed even more after Roy took the exam and wanted to learn morse. We had the opportunity to practice for half an hour every working evening in a quiet room before going home and I gave him his coaching and practice. Roy talked me into taking the Post Office exam that December up in London. Proficiency takes time (just to encourage those learning now) and when Roy felt ready, we applied and took the P.O. test together. Naturally we both passed, and made the licence applications together in the same envelope and were given adjacent call signs in November 1961. Roy was much more ready than I was and went on the air, that first day, on 160 metres, I think with G3KPI. My first contact was with Roy when he was operating a special event station "The Marconi Jubilee Station, Writtle" using the call sign GB2MT. However, Roy never went on to radiate amateur TV. Over the years our discussions lead to us having very similar equipment, except for aerials.

Later, one of the department's senior engineers (Vic Stokes) was writing a book called "Radio Transmitters" and wanted to make it comprehensive and include a chapter on Amateur Radio transmitters and linear amplifiers. With his guidance, Roy built his first linear amplifier, with a brilliant performance, and it featured in the book. Roy used that amplifier for many years, and only pensioned it off for the WARC bands.

Over the years we worked very closely together, the development of good equipment depends upon test equipment which is good enough to define the performance of the new equipment. In development we could often show defects in the best of supplier's equipment, and Roy was an integral part in the development of new techniques and of getting it right, by negotiating with the suppliers. Roy always paid meticulous attention to detail, and everything had to be correct.

The Marconi Company changed out of all recognition in our time with the company, and so has the equipment we worked on. Bands One and Three Television are no more.

and the new digital services will soon be operational. There is much to remember, and perhaps mourn in passing, even that our old Building has been demolished. In many ways, the end of an era!

Roy 1928-1998 - Geoff G3EDM

It is difficult for me to pin-point my first meeting with Roy but it was certainly over 30 years ago at a time when we both operated top band as well as being mobile on that band. I was then a founder-member of the Vange ARS and not even a member of the Chelmsford ARS. Roy and I were both interested at that time in direction finding (DF). Through Roy's inspirational use of Mullard Intermediate Frequency (IF) & Audio Frequency (AF) modules I published a design (Radcom May 1969) of a 160m DF receiver using a ferrite rod aerial; many hundreds of these were made. These modules were the forerunners of today's Integrated Circuits (ICs) and made construction work very simple.

About 1970 Roy ordered a Strumech Versatower and when the truck driver arrived with two, Roy was curious to know who the owner of the other tower was. Thus we had some common ground in those days and ever since. Together we operated on 20 and 15 metres quite regularly, on Saturdays, and we met Colin, ZL1AUM, whom both Roy and Ela later met at Colin's home in Auckland. Colin was a TV engineer and so had much in common with Roy. Many of us have seen the marvellous photos that Roy took on that holiday in New Zealand. Conditions in sunspot cycle 23 are improving to the point that I am sure Roy and Ela were looking forward to renewing the regular QSO's on 20 & 15m. Alas that is not to be.

In 1972 I moved house to Little Baddow and was able with my wife Sylvia to see Roy and Ela more often. Roy has been a steering force for the Society and was instrumental in obtaining the use of the Marconi College premises; which use recently came to an end. He described it as an end of an era. I guess it was and knew how he felt!

He was always ready to help others interested in the hobby and because of his background with the Marconi Company, with his father's audio business, and with test equipment there were many facets of the hobby where he had expert knowledge and we all benefitted. He was a perfectionist when it came to home constructed radio equipment and one only had to visit his shack to realise the professionalism that was behind everything he did. Photography and computing came into this category also.

At the annual Constructor's Competition he always pulled something out of the bag. How many of us have built surface mounted components into our constructions? He was also knowledgeable about aerials. In recent years he was the engineer behind Ela's activities on VHF & UHF. A great team effort. He was adept at using the lathe and his garage was a well equipped workshop for things mechanical.

Harry Heap, G5HF, will undoubtedly mention Roy's interest in taking weather pictures off-air to say nothing of his meticulous detailed recording of rainfall at Great Waltham. And the charts he produced, on his computer, to record the rainfall; copies of which he gave to a number of others.

Additionally, he often put weather maps taken off-air on the club noticeboard. Although lately, I believe, similar maps were taken off the Internet. Certainly, he made good use of the Internet and its E-mail facility.

The News Letter, each month, has gone from strength to strength and the final climax being Roy's introduction of digital coloured photographs into it. This linked nicely with his interest in photography and the fact that he could print in colour, in the appropriate pixel density, was a bonus. Some members may not realise that he and Ela duplicated every copy of each issue of the Newsletter as well as publishing it.

Roy - Brian G3CVI

It was in 1968, when I first trekked north to Essex, that I met Roy. We were employed by the "Old Company" and were often seen chatting in Building 46 and its environs.

After a couple of years during which I moved round the various establishments we re-opened our association in the early days of the amateur radio club in Chelmsford; in the days when meetings were held in Will Mosley's house and in the upper loft of a barn somewhere Moulsham way and at Fred Smith's shop. Roy and his enthusiasm kept us together but I tended to drift away while I was bringing up the family and working "all hours" for several years until one day, after a QSO with a local station, a delegation headed by Roy arrived at my QTH and we discussed field day. I was able, through friends, to "provide" a suitable site at Gt. Waltham and from then onwards things went from strength to strength.

Although I was licensed in 1946, I had not been very active during my sojourn close to the ATV station of the Barlows and Roy re-kindled my keenness and since then has kept my "nose to the grindstone". His kindness was so wonderful because, as a complete ignoramus in the computer world, he sold me (almost gave me) a spare "Dragon" on which I cut my teeth. He was never put out when I phoned to ask for help in some application or other and with Ela's encouragement I began to actually use the machine for useful purposes.

To say that Roy was a perfectionist is an understatement. Any piece of gear that passed through his hands had to be "Martyrd" before it was released to its destination. Even items of Club equipment I purchased new were given much more than the "once over" before they were used by Club members. I am sure much of this has rubbed off, not only on me, but many other folk among the amateurs in the Chelmsford locality. The great esteem in which Roy was held was illustrated so well by the attendance at the funeral service where I heard many of the old stories re-told, and enjoyed. Faces that I, for one, had not seen for years were re-calling the early days in the "Old Company" and all agreed that Roy's passing has been a sad loss to his family and the radio community at large.

Hope to see you soon at the meetings Ela!

Memories of Roy - Harry G5HF

When I returned to Amateur Radio in 1987, after 48 years "in the wilderness", one of my first aims was to join CARS. Ela and Roy at once made me very welcome and introduced me to people who have helped to solve the many technical problems

I faced in trying to catch up with modern technology. Whenever I asked a question, Roy would give me sound advice and often came over to my house, particularly to sort out computer problems. Roy always insisted on "doing things properly" and he was very patient, but firm, when he caught me trying to take a short cut!

I shall always be grateful for the way Roy lubricated my learning curve and left me with so many happy memories.

Good Bye, Good Friend - Eric G8ADX

In 1951 when I came to Chelmsford to be a boy apprentice with Marconi I knew no-one. Time has erased exactly how we met and how I was taken under the wing of G3PMX but I remember affectionately the many evenings spent in the garage shack at 2nd Avenue listening, fascinated, to world wide HF stations. Ela, who in those days had no interest in things RF, was in the house producing Tea Time Assorted biscuits and tea at the appropriate times. I remember asking her what she thought of being left on her own in the house. Her reply, "Well, he's there if I want him and not down the pub with the boys!" I soon came to know that he was always there if I, or anybody else, needed help and in no small way, in later years, with the advent of computers, with personal visits to sort problems.

I soon learnt from Roy to slow down, think, and above all, be meticulous. His pursuit of minute perfection earned him a reputation, not only at home where decorating seemed to take for ever, but also professionally where industrial pressures demanded instant answers for impatient managers, but he was always proved right in the long run. In fact, his quest for perfection brought about the situation that anything he had contact with would be in such good condition and performance, often much better than new, it would be said that "It's been Martyr-ed"! This is born out by the trapped dipole adorning my QTH today which he hand-crafted and used for many years in the '50s.

In later years, when Ela's attention turned to matters RF, Roy turned more and more to computing and interests in weather. His two days per month set aside for publishing our Newsletter were sacrosanct. Indeed, he set such a high standard that it will be difficult to maintain.

In spite of all his electronic and other interests Roy did not neglect his family as could easily been the case since Amateur Radio can be a very self absorbing hobby.

My thoughts are with his wife Ela, his son and daughter, David and Wendy and the grandchildren.

Roy was a great influence in my life and I am sure will continue to be so.

In this modern fast age remember "Slow down, think, be meticulous"

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Deadline for the next News Letter is 20th. June.