



THE JULY MEETING - An evening of reminiscences - Introduced by John G8DET



Our Librarian, Geoff G7KLV has spent many hours researching the history of our Society and is keen to provide the opportunity for members to recall the achievements and contributions made by individuals, both past and present. Following the introductory presentation by John, the evening will be somewhat informal with members providing radio anecdotes and some table mounted exhibits displaying early examples of amateur equipment, photographs of members stations and club events. Extra tables will be available for members who may wish to bring along historic items or photos (John has suggested pre 1980's to refresh memories!).

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

Our photograph this month shows club members setting up GB2CCS (Chelmsford Commemorative Station) at Gt. Waltham in April 1974 to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi. From left to right, Barry G3WFF, John G3KRZ, Roy G3PMX and the late Ron Ferguson G4VF.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 2 July CLUB MEETING - C.A.R.S. Bygoness.
- 7 July SOUTHEND RADIO & COMPUTER BOOT SALE.
- 14 July OPEN DAY, Chelmsford Science/Industrial Museum.
- 20 July R.S.G.B. HQ OPEN DAY & CAR BOOT SALE.
- 21 July COLCHESTER RADIO & COMPUTER RALLY.
- 28 July C.A.R.S GARDEN PARTY - G3EDM QTH.
- 4 Aug. R.S.G.B. NATIONAL MOBILE RALLY - Woburn.
- 6 Aug. CLUB MEETING - Marconi Digital Broadcasting.

COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Committee meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 10th July, in Telford Lodge, you are welcome to join us.

RADIO GARDEN PARTY IN LITTLE BADDOW

Geoff, G3EDM and his wife Sylvia have kindly offered to hold another garden party at their QTH on Sunday 28th July from 2.30pm onwards. Geoff requests "if the weather is dodgy please dial (01245)223494 to check if the party is ON or OFF".

Refreshments will be provided by our hosts, any contributions of cakes etc., will be most welcome. If you would like to attend, please tell Geoff 'how many' at the July Club Meeting, directions to the Mills QTH will be described.

For maximum comfort you may bring your own folding chair.

It is hoped to have GX0MWT/P on the air on HF, lets hope it will be fine, we have been lucky in the past.

The serial by Geoff, G7KLV will be continued next month. Ed.

CONSTRUCTORS COMPETITION

Report by Harry, G2HPF and Harry, G5HF

Last year there were so few entries for this competition that it appeared to have lost any appeal for members. On Tuesday 4th June things were a bit different and there were 14 entries lined up and waiting to be judged by the two Harrys' G2HPF and G5HF. Some of the entries were involved and had taken a long time to get to their present state, while others had been made at the last minute. One entry at least was not in existence at eight o'clock on the morning of the competition. But whichever class you fall into as a competitor many thanks to you for bringing your items along.

The winner was Fred G2HNF, who produced an absorption wavemeter for 2m and his version of an MFJ VHF Aerial Analyser. We have heard various comments about its progress on the 21 net and it was good to see the working model at last.

Second prize went to Geoff G7KLV for 'Topsy'. This was a receiver he had built incorporating the results of two projects he had been working on for some time, a phase locked loop VFO and home made crystal filters. I remember him asking one morning how to change the frequency of a crystal and I told him to use VIM!

Third prize went to Andy G7TKK. He produced an interface to use between a computer and a commercial rotator controller. This uses a serial to parallel converter to control the direction/elevation of a beam antenna. Positional sensing from the rotator is fed back to the computer, which can be by the fireside on a cold winters night.

The Novice prize went to Tony G4YTG. Perhaps we can hardly call him a novice, so we will call it a First Time Winner's Prize. He produced a dual band VHF antenna covering 2m and 70cms for car use. The parts list only calls for two bicycle spokes and a PL259 plug, so the project should not break the bank.

Andrew G4KQE's son Peter (age 10) was given a special prize for the youngest entry, an electronic illuminated name badge and a timer. Just right for boiling an egg. Andrew himself had built a neat little Camcorder battery charger, designed not to blow up the batteries on charge.

Chris G0IPU had spent a lot of time writing a program in Microsoft Quick Basic and compiling it. He demonstrated his computer controlling his FT736 and displaying all the information from the rig on the computer screen, including the S meter reading. Clicking the mouse on the bottom of the frequency readout lowers the value and clicking on the top increases it.

Gwyn G4FKH showed an electronic up/down counter with a unique method of switching. Maybe after a good night out his fingers are not too steady, so he puts his whole hand over the switch, which works on an optical system and detects the change of light getting through a small aperture.

Jan G7UVP showed a radio built from a Maplin kit. This was a direct conversion receiver for 10.1MHz and he wondered why he could not find SSB signals on that band. There ARE some stations who take no notice of band planning and use SSB on 10.1MHz at times!

Carl G3PEM showed an audio bandpass filter using variable high and low pass filters which give a wide range of passbands. I have my fingers crossed for you when you first switch on.

Colin G0TRM gave a very agile performance up on the platform as he demonstrated his vertical aeriels and mounts. I am afraid I have no metal stools to drill holes in and I find them a bit cold to sit on.

Dennis G8AAE showed a substantial 24V 40A PSU which he had built. With the addition of some good voltage regulators and protection circuits this entry would be good for running any modern transceivers requiring 13.6V.

Brian G3CVI dug in his junk box and produced a very simple switch to stop an intermittent AC power supply from blowing up his equipment. If the mains supply fails, even for a short time, it stays off until reset manually. It would be good for most electronic equipment, but don't put your alarm clock on that circuit or you may oversleep.

Geoff G2AMQ showed a speech processor he had made as an external unit for his rig. It will be interesting to hear him use it on the CARS net soon.

Thanks to everyone for their notes on the entries, as it made writing this report so much easier. Also many congratulations to all the competitors for the very high quality of workmanship and the ingenuity shown in the entries.

Reported by G2HPF, checked by G5HF, who will be blamed for any mistakes. *Ed: Thank you to the two judges for all your effort.*

MEMBERS NEWS

The Society extends a welcome return to James Watt, G6ZC.

SILENT KEY

Members will be saddened to learn that Bernard Reichman, G6RM passed away on 19th May after a prolonged illness.

Throughout his 84 years, Bernard was involved in many aspects of radio and radar which began when he trained as a young man to be a Marine Radio Officer. His next appointment was with the Air Ministry, pioneering the early development of radar and after war broke out he joined the Royal Air Force as a Radar Officer, attaining the rank of Sqdn. Ldr. When his service days were over in 1950 he joined the Radar Division of Marconi, serving the company well, up to his retirement.

Bernard's association with our Society spanned over 30 years; during this time he gave valuable service in committee, beginning in 1970 and was Vice-President from 1977 to 1983.

A message of condolence, on behalf of members was sent to Bernard's wife Eileen and family. The funeral service, conducted by Reverend Mills G3MCO, was attended by a number of club members.

MUSEUM OPEN DAY

The second open day at the Chelmsford Science and Industry Museum will take place on Sunday 14th July from 10am to 5pm. Why not bring the family along and see the increasing collection, illustrating Chelmsfords industrial heritage.

The Club will be operating a 'phone station' in the Writtle Hut and the new aerial system which gave good account for International Marconi Day this year. For more details contact Pat G0SBQ, Brian G3CVI or Geoff G7KLV.

NFD 1996, G0MWT/P - Gwyn, G4FKH

This year's field day was a great success and I believe we all left site on Sunday with a good feeling. The team spirit prevailed and showed itself many times before and during the event. At about mid-day on Saturday we blew a circuit board track of the club's rig. Roy, G3PMX was called on the mobile phone and advised, he promptly came from Braintree to site. He and Dick, G3WHR then proceeded to sort out the problem. In the meantime the rest of us were trying out Charles', G0GJS Corsair to see if we could use that if the club's rig problem was terminal. In short order Roy and Dick had diagnosed the problem and installed a fix. We indeed used the club's rig again. All sorts of other engineering activity took place, we were even changing the aerial's feeder around at mid-day on Sunday! In the circumstances I believe that our QSO score of 527 and points score of 2276 was reasonable. As already mentioned this was a triumph for the club's team spirit and my thanks go to all those who took part. A special thank-you to Daphne, G8WQZ for organising and supplying the NAAFI facilities.

SILENT KEY SALE

James Watt, G6ZC has provided a list of items on behalf of the widow of G6RM. If you are interested in any item(s), please contact James on (01277)353357.

1] KW2000 Transceiver with matching PSU/Speaker unit, KW mic, KW-Match SWR Meter, ATU 160-10m.

2] Straight Morse Key, brass on mahogany.

3] MARCONI CR-150/3 Receiver, 2-60MHz in five bands, bandwidth 300Hz-3KHz, requires PSU 6.3vac & 300vdc, handbook available.

4] BC221-M Frequency Meter.

5] AVO Meter.

6] AVO Minor.

7] ECKO TF801A Signal Generator

8] PYE CAMBRIDGE Radio Telephones, job lot of four.

FOR SALE

TATUNG 21" Colour Television Receiver complete with mobile floor stand and remote controller. In good condition, has had very little use. It is not fitted with TeleText or a SCART socket (no frills, less to go wrong!).

£110.

Contact Roy, G3PMX.

73 from Roy & Ela Martyr,
G3PMX & G6HKM

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