

# Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society.

NEWSLETTER NUMBER THREE HUNDRED

Callsign G0MWT

January 1991

## NEXT MEETING - The Annual Film/Video Show.

Periodically the first Tuesday of the month occurs on New Year's Day, this means that our regular meeting must be deferred, therefore our first 1991 assembly will be on the 8th January when we present our annual film/video show.

There will be a selection of video films for your interest as well as some 35mm slides taken in and around Backnang. If time allows we will slot in a favourite cartoon.

In addition we will resume the sale of components for the club equipment fund. At this meeting only will be a box of ancient valves which if not taken will reside in the tip!

We look forward to a good gathering of members for 7.30pm at The Marconi College, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

- 8 Jan. CLUB MEETING - The Annual Film/Video Show - PLEASE NOTE DATE!
- 5 Feb. CLUB MEETING - "Installing Mobiles" by Tom Crosbie, G6PZZ of NAVICO.
- 5 March CLUB MEETING - At the Emergency Planning Section, County Hall, Chelmsford.
- 2 April CLUB MEETING - The Radiocommunication Agency - by Mr J.C. Taylor.

## REPORT OF LAST MONTHS MEETING - Harry G2HPP.

We were very pleased to have Bob Boddy, G6AKL, of Arrow Radio Ltd. at the December meeting, who came loaded with assorted boxes containing equipment which he considered to be a cross section of the present market in new radio equipment.

He started off by showing us some of the handheld radios which seem to be getting smaller and smaller. The limiting factor appears to be controlled by speaker and battery size, and heat dissipation.

If you buy a handheld with facilities for using an external power source, you will have more time to waffle but will then come across the problem of heat. They are not made for continuous use and shut themselves down or reduce power when overheated.

As they get smaller and more complicated then there is also the problem of the many controls actuated by the keypad. If this is too small then your finger will operate more than one key at a time and you are likely to get the control circuits snagged up. It is possible to reset this but all the information that you have previously entered into the memories so laboriously will also be lost.

So before you dash off to buy a handheld just think what you exactly want, how much you can afford, then take your finger to Hatfield Peverel to see if Bob can provide something to suit all those parameters.

If you are prepared to take out a mortgage you might be interested in the next item which Bob showed and talked about, the TS950. I thought when they brought out the FT1000 it was the ultimate, but the TS950 seems to be even better. However at over £3K it would appear to have a limited market, I certainly cannot afford one after buying my GX5 organ!

After this Bob went on to describe the various scanning receivers which are on the market now, some with up to 1000 memories. Again with these you may have trouble with front end selectivity if you live in the neighbourhood of any local transmitters. So before buying one I would suggest borrowing one on approval or getting a demonstration at your home QTH.

It was also admitted that some of the miniature printed circuit boards packed with surface mounted components are not repairable even by the experts, so don't expect to service them yourselves, just grin and pay for a new board.

Many thanks Bob and we look forward to your next visit.

## MEMBERS NEWS - Ela G6HKM.

Thank you to all who have paid their subscriptions, however, there are still a few outstanding, unless these are renewed soon, this will regrettably be the last newsletter they will receive, thank you for your support in the past.

As mentioned earlier the new rates are £4. Ordinary Members and £3. for Senior Citizens, if paying by cheque please make payable to "Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society".

## NEWS FROM GERMANY - Roy G3PMX.

The association with Backnang continues by the regular Sunday evening contacts on 80m in SSB with Peter DK7SP and in CW with Willy DL6SX.

Peter has sent a request from Alois, DL3PD to look out for him on 14MHz SSB during daylight hours for further Backnang/Chelmsford contacts. Members may remember that Ela and I visited the home of Alois during our 1990 tour and were impressed by his very fine station and his work towards the success of the local 23cm Television Repeater. Alois has retired from work at ANT and is enjoying the extra time he can devote to Amateur Radio.

## THE CLUB 10 METRE NET.

The 28.325MHz SSB net which is held at 8.30pm on the Tuesday's between meetings will continue on New Year's Day for the exchange of news, views and seasons greetings.

**WARC 92 PREPARATIONS - A report by Charles G0GJS.**

Mike Godard the head of the UK delegation to the WARC 92 conference recently gave a lecture at the IEE on the preparations that are being made for the ITU Seville conference in February 1992, he works for the new Radiocommunications Agency which was formerly the old Radio Regulatory Division of the DTI/Home Office.

Mike explained that WARC 89 called for WARC 92 to make specific frequency allocations in certain areas.

The major issues for the conference are:-

- Increases in HF Broadcasting (HFBC) spectrum.
- More mobile and associated satellites frequencies (1 - 3GHz).
- High Definition Television (HDTV) allocation (international).
- Allocation for Satellite Sound Broadcasting (1 - 3GHz).
- New space services above 20GHz for NASA interplanetary missions.
- Review of ship stations' operators licences.

Additional items raised by the ITU Administration Council are :-

- Allocations below 1GHz for low orbiting satellites (USA mobile comms: market).
- Allocation for fixed satellite services (14.5 - 14.8GHz).
- Radio Determination Satellite Service (RDSS) service (1.6 and 2.5GHz).
- Allocation for new Microwave Landing System (797 - 800MHz).
- Frequencies below 1GHz for Meteorological (MET) aids.
- Allocations for MET and Earth Exploratory satellites (401 - 403MHz).

European preparations by CEPT are of course going on in parallel and Mike Goddard is much involved. Main issues for WARC 92 and HFBC allocations, new mobile bands, specific bands for APC(TFTS), and bands for universal mobile telecomms. Marine, aeronautical and AMATEUR bands are to be protected. Mike made the specific statement that amateur bands "are unlikely to be touched" and prior to be WARC 92 the UK is seeking international agreement on this issue... However the USA seeks some (unspecified) change around 7MHz but they are unlikely to succeed.

Mike Goddard gave details of the frequencies being sought in the higher bands and I checked them all against the Amateur Band Plan and can find no conflicts.

Prior to the WARC 92 numbers of bilateral meetings take place - UK/Japan, UK/CEPT, UK/USA, NATO/Civil, CEPT/UK/USA/Canada - so as to ensure much "rubber stamping" of the proposals... The UK proposals have to be approved by the Ministers mid 1991 and then are forwarded to the ITU later in the year. Between 20 and 40 UK delegates will be at Seville out of a total of 1600.

Other points... HDTV worldwide needs 600MHz and will probably be accommodated around 22 or 25GHz... Satellite sound broadcasting will be 'C.D.' quality and will occupy 50-80MHz probably around 1.5 or 2.5GHz... Sixty countries out of 160 are operating outside of authorised HFBC bands but they are allowed to do so provided they do not cause QRM!!! To accommodate the HFBC increase in spectrum its the fixed telecommunications operating companies that will have to give... More use should be made of fibre optics by fixed telecommunication networks - use the spectrum for mobile services!!

**REPORT ON THE CLUB SOCIAL - Ela G6HKM.**

How lucky we were that this event took place on the 15th December and not one week earlier, you may recall that on the 8th the roads were treacherous with snow.

There is no doubt that 32 was the limit for the party, we were well packed into the dining room, elbow to elbow, the menu was very good, the price also included a glass of red or white wine, a choice of 3 deserts followed by hot mince pies. If the chatter that was going on was anything to go by I think it can be said a good time was had by all.

I did the raffle as usual, the prizes were a bottle of Asti Spumanti won by Andrew, G4KQE, 1lb box Terrys All Gold Chocolates, Geoff, G3EDM and ladies 'smellies' by Doreen, wife of Don G0LLA.

Congratulations and thanks to Gwyn, G4FKH for organising the event and finding such a good venue.

**COMMITTEE MEETING.**

The January Committee Meeting will be held in the Telford Lodge (Marconi College Residence) at 7:30pm on Wednesday, 16th January. You are most welcome to join us.

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* A VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL *
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