

# *This & That & W<sub>HAT</sub> H<sub>AVE</sub> Y<sub>OU</sub>?*



## The Newsletter for COLCHESTER RADIO AMATEURS

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T&T&WHY? Edited by James (M0ZZO) [james@mcginty.net](mailto:james@mcginty.net) or (01255) 242748

Club Callsigns:- **G3CO & M1COL**

Please submit copy for inclusion by the Sunday of club meeting week; by phone, post or email.  
Distributed by:- Direct Email (send your email-address to the Editor); or posted to absent members by prior agreement.

### Meeting #01 on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2007 at St Helena School: Completion of Club Policy and Mission Statement - All Members

#### **CRA 2007 Diary & Meetings Programme.** (Thursday evening meetings commence at 19:30)

Enquiries and/or suggestions for talks to the Programme Secretary or any Committee Member.

23 Oct	<b>Contest: RSGB 50MHz Activity.</b> All Modes. 20:00 - 22:30 Local. RS(T) + S/N + Locator.
30 Oct	<b>Contest: RSGB 70MHz Activity.</b> All Modes. 20:00 - 22:30 Local. RS(T) + S/N + Locator.
01 Nov	<b>Meeting 02 Colchester Institute</b> Kevin Belle, M0BCK Collecting Sunshine, going green with PV Cells
3-4 Nov	<b>Contest: RSGB 144 MHz CW Marconi contest</b> 14:00 – 14:00 RST + S/N + Locator.
6 Nov	<b>Contest: RSGB 144 MHz Activity.</b> All Modes. 20:00 - 22:30 Local. RS(T) + S/N + Locator.
10 Nov	<b>Contest: RSGB Club Calls Top Band</b> 20:00 – 23:00 1870-1990kHz, RS+Serial+Club Info.
15 Nov	<b>Meeting 03 St Helena School</b> 2008 Events discussion and natter night
13 Nov	<b>Contest: RSGB 432 MHz Activity.</b> All Modes. 20:00 - 22:30 Local. RS(T) + S/N + Locator.
17 Nov	<b>Contest: RSGB 2<sup>nd</sup> 1.8Mhz Contest</b> 21:00 – 01:00 CW 1820-1870kHz, RST+Serial+District.
20 Nov	<b>Contest: RSGB 1.3/2.3GHz Activity.</b> All Modes. 20:00 - 22:30 Local. RS(T) + S/N + Locator.
27 Nov	<b>Contest: RSGB 50MHz Activity.</b> All Modes. 20:00 - 22:30 Local. RS(T) + S/N + Locator.
29 Nov	<b>Meeting 04 Colchester Institute</b> Kevan 2E0WMG content TBA
02 Dec	<b>Contest: RSGB 144MHz Affiliated Soc.</b> 09:00 – 17:00 all modes RS(T) + Serial No + Loc.
04 Dec	<b>Contest: RSGB 144 MHz Activity.</b> All Modes. 20:00 - 22:30 Local. RS(T) + S/N + Locator.
11 Dec	<b>Contest: RSGB 432 MHz Activity.</b> All Modes. 20:00 - 22:30 Local. RS(T) + S/N + Locator.
13 Dec	<b>Meeting 05 Inter Club convention (Christmas “do”) St Helena School</b>
18 Dec	<b>Contest: RSGB 1.3/2.3GHz Activity.</b> All Modes. 20:00 - 22:30 Local. RS(T) + S/N + Locator.
26-29 Dec	<b>Contest: RSGB Xmas Cumulatives</b> * 50/70/144/432 See below for details
20 Jan	<b>Foundation training course</b> – Marks Tey Volunteers required

- The Christmas Cumulative contests run from 1400- 1600 each day. Contest is all modes and exchange is RS(T) + S/N + Locator. Cumulative contest rules apply Score at 1 pt / QSO. QTH locator and Country multipliers applies, and the same multipliers may be claimed for credit on each band on each day.
- 26<sup>th</sup> Dec = 50MHz, 27<sup>th</sup> Dec = 70MHz, 28<sup>th</sup> Dec = 144 MHz, 29<sup>th</sup> Dec = 432 MHz.
- Check RSGB VHFCC web site for full details “[www.vhfcc.org](http://www.vhfcc.org)”

### And It's Good Night From Me.

Thanks to all who sent in articles and other items over the past year. Please make sure you give even more support to the new editor.

**1> From the Last Time - AGM 2007**

Frank (G3FIJ)

Once again the Pony Express didn't make it to Harwich in time for Franks report on the AGM. I have included the full transcript of the chairman's report in a separate item.

Other than that a healthy financial situation was reported and it was agreed to keep the membership fees at the same level.

Nominations were read out for all posts except Rally Director and Programme Secretary. A volunteer came forward from the floor (David M1AMI) for Programme Secretary and the committee was then elected en bloc.

The new committee is as follows.

<b>Role</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Callsign</b>
Chairman	Kevan Pugh	2E0WMG
Vice Chairman	Bill McGill	2E0BMG
Secretary	Frank Howe	G3FIJ
Assistant Secretary	Jacqueline Wilson	2E0VRG
Treasurer	Ed Erbes	MØHDK
Assistant Treasurer	Alan Cross	GØHKG
Program Secretary	David Chambers	M1AMI
Publicity	Martin Clarke	2E0NOW
Equipment Manager	James McGinty	MØZZO
Assistant Eq Manager	Matt Morton	2E0XIS
Training Co-Ordinator	Brian Fitzsimmons	G0GGM
Repeater Keeper	Jef May	G7BKU
Rally Co-ordinator	Vacant	

**2> HF Conference 2007.**

James (M0ZZO)

The venue for this was Wyboston Lakes in Bedfordshire. The event started with an IOTA dinner on the Friday night and continued until Sunday afternoon.

There were many presentations on DXpeditions, Operating techniques, Equipment and Software. There were commercial stands from Martin Lynch and ICOM along with and RSGB bookstall (Run by yours truly). There was also information on Radio Orienteering (foxhunting and ARDF) and The Radio Communications Foundation.

There were opportunities to take all UK and US exams, a drop of point for the QSL bureau and card checking for DXCC awards.

The highlight of the event for our club was on Saturday Morning when the contest Group (represented By Matt 2E0XIS, Andrew M0SPS, Dave G1OGY, John G4ZTR and James M0ZZO) collected 3 trophies, including the one for VHF field day which they have now won 4 years in a row.

The Conference is likely to be at the same venue next year and is only about an hours drive away, so why not think about going along.

**And It's Good Night From Me.**

**Thanks to all who sent in articles and other items over the past year. Please make sure you give even more support to the new editor.**

**3> Chairman's Report.**

Matt (2E0XIS)

A year has gone by and the club has seen some changes. There have been some sad times with the loss of some club members that became silent keys: Frank Osborn G2CVO, John Gage G1ODR and Mickey Morrissey G4YK.

There have also been some happy times with the successful foundation and intermediate courses. Many thanks to those members who worked as out stations and who helped out at Marks Tey

The rally would not have happened if it had not been planned and worked on by the rally director and committee members. A big thank you to James M0ZZO for his dedication and organising Skills in bring this year's rally to a successfully outcome.

**This post will need to be filled if we are to see another successful rally in 2008**

Thanks are also due to those members who have supported the club in the 80-meter contest which resulted in the club finishing in 11<sup>th</sup> place. Thanks also to those that have supported the 2m UKAC contest on the Tuesday night's this is of course on-going but we are currently in 14<sup>th</sup> place as of the September scores. It would be nice to see if we could finish in the top 10.

It has also been a year that has seen the club out and about in the community. The thinking day on the air event in February from Prettygate School, The Aldham rally in June, Cudmore grove in July and the Joint (with HARIG) lighthouses event in August. There have also been a couple of events at pretty gate school through out the year. All of these Events have been a great success.

A lot of time and energy has been put in to organising and running these events and training sections and if Kevan 2E0WMG had not put the time and effort into organising them they wouldn't have happened.

I therefore award the chairman's cup to Kevan 2E0WMG

**4> JOTA.**

James (M0ZZO)

Colchester Radio Amateurs will once again be helping out with JOTA. Activity will start around 09:00 local on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October and end in mid to late afternoon on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October.

Activity is planned for 2 Metres FM and most of the HF BANDS. The call sign in use will be GB50COL so listen out if you can't get along.

The site is Great Porters Farm, Fordham Heath. Grid ref is TL936269 (Loc JO01JV) and all volunteers will be most welcome. A map to help guide you to the location can be found here <http://www.tiny.cc/jLITp> Further details will be available at the club meeting.

**And It's Good Night From Me.**

**Thanks to all who sent in articles and other items over the past year. Please make sure you give even more support to the new editor.**

**5> The Newsletter**

James (M0ZZO)

I would just like to repeat my thanks from the last issue and say a formal farewell to the readers and contributors who have made my year as editor reasonably successful.

The new editor is Jacqueline Wilson, 2E0VRG. She has some exciting changes in mind for the newsletter but will need lots of support to keep it going.

It takes quite a bit of time and effort to prepare T&T& WHY and there are deadlines to meet so please get some articles to the editor as soon as possible.

The Events Diary has been very poorly supported over the past year and some criticism was made that there were not enough events in it. The Editor is just what it says on the tin. Their job is to edit together information that comes in and to ensure that a readable and informative newsletter reaches the membership.

If something is missing from the diary (or anywhere else in the newsletter) it's because YOU didn't tell the editor about it.

I am looking forward to see how the newsletter develops and hope that everyone does their bit to help.

Good luck Jacqueline.

**9> The Club Nets: (E&OE).**

**ALL RADIO AMATEURS ARE INVITED TO JOIN IN THE CRA NETS.**

*Due to a severe shortage of Harwich post persons the net participant's information did not make it into this issue. Hopefully Jacqueline will have space for a double helping next time.*

**Wetzlar Group on 7095kHz + / - QRM at 1000 - Sundays**

Thanks to Frank for the Logs.

16<sup>th</sup> Sep            5 Stations DL2DN, 2E0BMG, M3CDH, M0BVQ, G3FIJ

23<sup>rd</sup> Sep                            10 Stations DK1KF, G0HKG, G3FIJ/P, G4SOB, M0DEQ,  
M0BVQ, 2E0BMG, 2E0VRG, G8UNZ, M3CDH

**Herbert Group on 7105kHz + / - QRM at 1200 local time – Tuesdays.**

18<sup>th</sup> Sep            3 Stations DL2DN, G3FIJ, M0BVQ

19<sup>th</sup> Sep            4 Stations DL2DN, G3FIJ, G4SOB, M0BVQ

**VHF net on 145.400MHz, at 2030 local time - Thursdays alternating with club meeting.**

27<sup>th</sup> Sep            9 Stations G0HKG, G3FIJ, G4SOB, G7GCB, G7RLH, G8UNZ, M0BVQ,  
M3ZZN, M0LFS

**UHF net on RB14 GB3CE (Repeater) at 2030 local time – alternate Fridays.**

28<sup>th</sup> Sep            7 Stations G3FIJ, G0KOY, G4SOB, G8FYH, M0BVQ, M1AMI, M3XMK

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