

THE SADARS NEWSLETTER

Issue 1, March 03

Welcome to the first issue of the revamped newsletter, a publication for and on behalf of The Stevenage & District Amateur Radio Society.

Recent Changes and The AGM

The 2003 committee.

Sean Williams	M1ECY	Chairman
Ron Pratt	G4DDX	Treasurer
Don Bache	M0XJP	Secretary (joint)
Mark Russell	M3RCT	Secretary (joint)
Rob McTait	G2BKZ	Member
Dick Wolfe	M0AJF	Member
Nicholas Pike	M3BBZ	Member
Alan Pounder	M0DAL	Member
Paul Brice-Stevens	G0WAT	Member
Anne Williams	M3NTM	Member

A note from the Chair.

Seeing as I obviously have too much spare time, I thought that I would try a newsletter to see about demand. This can only continue with you, yes, the one reading this now, as I get very bored reading all that I have to say.

I must first thank the out going committee for handing me the club running smoothly. Then of course the membership for supporting me and having the faith that I wont screw up completely!

On a serious note, I am sure that I speak for the whole committee when I say that we are all here to help the club to grow and progress, and if any members have ideas for things to do, or ways to publicise the society, then a word in my ear, or the

other members listed above should yield some action to do just that.

We have an exciting year ahead, with membership at a healthy level, and if current interest is nurtured then I hope to see our numbers swell. To help this I would personally like to invite all our members to assist in whatever way to introduce people to our hobby, and of course invite visitors on club nights to really show that radio is alive and well in Stevenage.

Above all lets make 2003 a memorable year for the club, and let us be proud to say that yes, we are the club that is always in the limelight, and show the likes of the Colchester club that we can command more column inches in Radcom than they ever dreamed of!

Sean M1ECY

Forthcoming events.

29/30th March sees the club taking part in a 48hr HF contest, a perfect opportunity for all to see the bedlam on the bands from a competitive station (no, not Mimram Paul). All will be made welcome, but please come along with the idea that you want to take part, no better way to cure nerves than to be thrown in with experienced operators to help you make those first contacts.

26th April sees the club going all-antique, with a display (working I hope) at the British Legion event on the Bowling Green. Unconfirmed classic sets including the 19 set and the 1155 will be available to help elbow some room on 80m using Antique Modulation. If you can't make it, try listening around 3.618mhz for us, and give us a call. Les G7THT promises to bring some domestic sets from the period to brighten up the display on the day. Want to help? See Tony M0AZZ, who is organising things for us.

Some point late in April, we will require a short EGM, to tidy the rough edges of the constitution. Yes, I can hear the groans now, but please do send any suggestions to either of the secretaries in plenty of time for us to circulate ideas.

And now onto ramblings from the members...

From Anne Williams M3NTM

I was shocked to be awarded the Chairs Choice Shield. The Shield now has pride of place in my shack.

This is the first time I have ever received an award so as you can imagine I'm quite chuffed. It brings a smile when I recall the reason for the award being given.

Dashing home to get "Henry the Hoover" to clear the shack of dust plaster & rubble and then getting on my hands and knees with wet paper hand towels to wash a slimy muddy floor all well trodden in by the busy male members of the antenna rigging team. (Female members guilty too! Ed.) One thought maybe, perhaps the purchase of a mop and bucket for future use would be a good idea?

Receiving this award has made me think of other antic's I've been up to.

My first real contact with SADARS was a request from Sean M1ECY, asking if I would be busy on a Sunday morning in May, because the club was running a stall at the Dunstable Rally, and another car was needed to ferry items to be sold? . Ok, I said no problem; the only condition is that I would have to follow him because I tend to get lost very easily. What time I said? . We have to be at the rally at 6am he said. Oh I thought that means leaving home at 5.30am. (What am I letting myself in for)?

Duly arrived in convoy needing to find the loo's (guess what loo's have not arrived yet) Dash for the nearest tree/bush thinking this lot are really off their trolleys. Its 6am on a Sunday morning misty damp and a bit on the chilly side and they could still be in bed. The day got a lot warmer and ended up with sun stroke. I decided there and then that if SADARS would have me I would like to join this mad lot.

I then heard about these things called contests, and a place called Deacon Hill thought I'd find out what happens. Bought myself a tent (only used it twice

never again) suffered the rain and wind I even made a bucket famous (no toilets on the hill). Ken M0KPB even showed me how to wash pots and pans army style. Now I'm hooked on contesting, but not perhaps on Deacon Hill

National field day 2002.

Sunday morning found the courage to drive up to the top of Deacon Hill an interesting experience, but I mastered it. Offered to cook breakfast for the rather bedraggled group that greeted me. So on a small camping stove with the very small grill and even smaller frying pans, a full English breakfast for ten hungry people. No problem one might think, but found out that after years of little practice I could not fry an egg if my life depended on it, but the scrambled ones went down a treat. Thinking all the time should have brought the wok with me could have cooked this all in the one pan. The WOK will be donated to the club equipment list. Well this is the end of my first waffle for the newsletter I hope it gives a few laughs.

Suggestions or articles for publication should be sent to Sean M1ECY preferably by email, but any format can be abused for publication.

Submitted items probably wont be edited unless we are short of space spelling will of course be checked.

Pictures or cartoons are very welcome of course, but production limitations will mean these have to be in electronic format (I can't draw!)

From Sarah Morris M3CPD

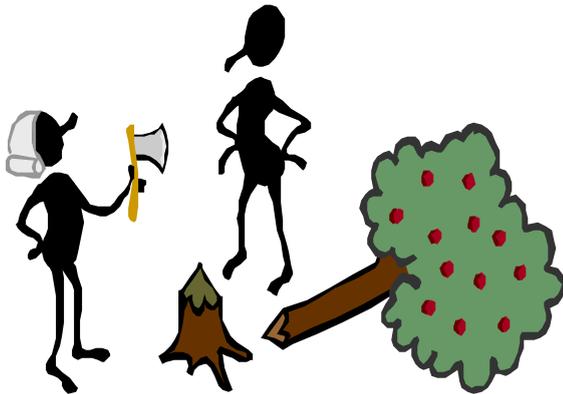
My loving boyfriend Martin (G7MSG) and his friend Dean (G7PKF) decided that they would get Alison (Dean's Wife) and I to do the foundation course.

Here's how the deceiving pair did it! Dean told Ali that if she did the course then I would and I got told the opposite. However I also had a lot of encouragement from the club members which was nice.

I am glad that I have done it but still not sure about talking on the radio yet (get a bit nervous)
So moral of the story is DONT TRUST MARTIN AND DEAN!

Nah really I am glad that I have done it and can laugh at the way I was tricked. Thanks for all the encouragement from everyone.

News Items



The Antenna riggers finally get their own way, and it doesn't cost the club a penny!

The club has finally got rid of the tree that hampers progress on antenna maintenance, and with the Recent work carried out sees the antenna system fully operational in time for the first contest we will participate in (see event news).

New Website



Nicholas M3BBZ Has been charged with expanding our presence on the web, so we can be found at WWW.SADARS.COM or WWW.SADARS.ORG , so we wish him well, and hope to have a wide range of info available on the new site as soon as possible.

Ideas or suggestions for the website should of course be sent direct to him.

Honorary Membership

Honorary membership was granted to Peter 2E1CRK, and Tim G8PTP. The membership present at the AGM voted unanimously in favour of this proposal.

Both recipients were nominated for their support and contributions over previous years, and for the years to come.

The editor and committee wish to express our thanks for these efforts , and hope that the awards given are accepted as a token of our gratitude.

Special Thanks

Special thanks should be extended to both Wayne and Glenn (whose callsigns escape me at present) for their support over the short time with the club.

I for one hope that they both continue to advance their interest in the hobby, and take this opportunity to congratulate them on what they have achieved so far.

WELL DONE!

For Sale/Wanted.

I am quite willing to put this section in for those that want it, all I ask is that ethical trading takes place, and that deals done remain between the members concerned.

Wanted

The club desperately needs donations of junk to sell at the next Dunstable rally, or at the club junk sale to be held later in the year. Contact Sean on 01462 459724, or email to M1ECY@uku.co.uk.



Wanted

A willing member to compile a “Skills and Interests List” to be held at the club. This will enable newcomers the ability to direct questions and requests for help to the most suited member available. Want to help? You know whom to see...

The Stevenage and District Amateur Radio Society Meet on Tuesday evenings at the Stevenage Resource Centre on Chells Way in Stevenage.

Meetings begin at 7.30pm and all are welcome, so if you fancy a look, just pop in and you will be made most welcome.

We are fortunate to have the ability to be on the air at every club night with facilities available to all members.

The SADARS Newsletters are a publication of The Stevenage & District Amateur Radio Society. All material is copyright protected but permission to reproduce items within will usually be granted if prior consent is obtained from the editor or contributor direct and credit is given as to the items source.

Edited and printed by Sean Williams M1ECY 32 Waterdell Lane St. I ppolyts Hertfordshire SG4 7QZ