

CLUB NET

Cyril Young G8KHH



The first club that we pay a visit to this month proves a point that I was trying to get over to a group of overseas students who were fascinated with their first contact with Ham radio and then preceded to complain that none of them worked in electronics and therefore did not have a hope of becoming a Ham.

Of course this is not true; Ham radio knows no boundaries political, religious or professional wise, Vicar, Tax man, Chef, Ham radio is an absorbing hobby that can be enjoyed by all and fosters friendship throughout the world.

Jumping off my 'orange box' I now turn to the club that brought these words to mind, the WORLD ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN RADIO AMATEURS AND LISTENERS, founded in 1957 by the late Rev. Arthur W. Sheppard G3NGF; which only goes to prove my previous comment.

As the club's title suggests, WACRA is world wide with an excellent following in the UK and most English speaking countries. The Club now has members in Poland, Italy, Holland, Switzerland and is growing at quite a considerable rate. The only essential qualifications for membership are — to be interested in radio and a Christian of any denomination.

Of course, the club's aim is to encourage world radio fellowship leading to world wide Christian friendship. A great need in the world today! Weekly meetings of such a

club is not possible, but nets and scheds are organised on 80 meters for UK and 20 meters for World Wide.

Another interesting field the club fosters is tape sponding; far more personal than writing letters. The club issues a quarterly newsletter to which members can contribute to air their views. They also run their own award certificate plus their own QSL bureau. It is a non profit making organisation and the annual subscription is kept to an absolute minimum, standing at the moment at £2 per year and due on April 1st. For further information contact — Rev. Leonard D. Collie G3AGX, Micasa, 13 Ferry Road, Wawne, Nr. Hull HU7 5XU, England, enclosing an SAE, or telephone 0482 822276.

The magazine from our next club really made me cringe when I read it. I could not believe a magazine of such size could be published with so many errors and spelling mistakes, but a covering letter of explanation reassured me and provides an interesting approach.

The large number of errors — (and I do know the final figure but had better not give it away) — is part of a competition in which the errors are counted the winner, with the correct number winning a prize of an LED clock module! This is what I call being original, so the BOLSOVER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB get top marks for ingenuity!

This club, which covers the Mansfield, Chesterfield, Dronfield and Worksop area — when you have corrected the errors — what appears to be a very interesting magazine with something for everyone, even items not pertaining to Ham Radio but nevertheless very interesting and

amusing, like their 'Know your members' crossword, which took up a couple of pages. Well done Tony G8EGD!

Bolsover Club meet on Wednesday nights at 8pm at the Angel Hotel, Castle Street, Bolsover, Derbyshire, and on the 5th of January 1983 they are having a committee meeting; on the 12th, a talk by the Worksop Repeater Group, on 19th a Film Show and on 26th, a Compiler Meeting (Compiler of what, Computer language?, I wonder!).

While their club is not very large at the moment, they are certain there is a large number of people in the area that could become members. If you are in the district why not go along one club night and see if their activities interest you.

I have received a very interesting letter from Norman Jaques G8VQV, Secretary of the READING TELEPHONE AREA RADIO CLUB (that's a new one on me, I must admit). Norman doesn't say whether the club is purely for members of the 'Busby Organisation' (or has Busby been shot down when it became British Telecom). Anyway, they obviously had quite an event at the end of September/early October under a special call sign GB2BT to celebrate the first full year of British Telecom and of the Club. Congratulations all round to the club for its first full year of activity.

The event was started with a call to G8ASK at the Bournemouth Telephone Exchange and went on to make almost 260 calls on HF and VHF bands during the 24 hours of the contest. At midnight GMT the club took advantage of the new licencing arrangements, which enabled a short wave listener member

of the club to become what they expect to be the first non-licensed person to pass a message over the air under the new Home Office regulations; when shortwave listener Mike Gray spoke to Chris G6AHH. The event also included a mini exhibition set up to show the various facets of amateur radio to staff of the Reading Telephone area. Major interest was shown in fast and slow scan TV links and a demonstration of computerised RTTY set up by the club Chairman, Bob Wootten G8VMX; plus a display of D.I.Y. equipment and a demonstration of CW by Roger G3UAX.

For more information on this club and its activities contact — Norman Jaques G8VQV, 40 Broad Lane, Upper Bucklebury, Reading RG7 6QJ.

I haven't heard from Christopher Moore, Secretary of the PINFOLD RADIO CLUB, this month, but on re-reading his last letter there is one point I didn't have room for last time. The club, though small in numbers is not lacking in enthusiasm, being part of the Pinfold Social and Handicraft Centre for disabled and handicapped people is obviously short of cash. Funds will only permit the purchase of one radio magazine a month. I'm sure there must be some Hams in the vicinity who have no further use for their magazines, instead of throwing them in the dustbin, throw them in the general direction of THE PINFOLD RADIO CLUB, at 24 Sally Ward Drive, Walsall Wood, West Midlands, WS9 9JZ, where they will be much appreciated.

If flying rusty metal turns you on! OSCAR NEWS the official journal of AMSAT-UK is