

# Back Page

## ERG COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

**Secretary:** Richard Merrell G4GUJ e-mail [rpmerrell@iee.org](mailto:rpmerrell@iee.org)

**Packet Radio:** ERG@GB7COS

**Internet Website:** <http://www.swsystems.co.uk/erg>

Regular news updates appear throughout the year on the ERG website, and on email and packet radio bulletins. Please contact our Hon.Sec. G4GUJ for more details

### **Frequency Bands:-**

**GB3DA** 145.125 MHz Input, 145.725MHz Output Channel R5 (RV58)

**GB3ER** 434.675MHz Input, 433.075MHz Output Channel RB3 (RU246)

**GB3CMS** Microwave Beacon 10.36896 GHz (keeper - Clive Ward G1EUC)

**Newsletter Editor:** Murray Niman G6JYB e-mail [mjniman@iee.org](mailto:mjniman@iee.org)

## ✂ MEMBERSHIP FORM ✂

**CALL SIGN** \_\_\_\_\_

**FULL NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete the above and send a cheque or postal order for the sum of £8 (or £5 if you are a Novice or SWL) which should be made payable to ESSEX REPEATER GROUP to:-

Hon.Treasurer ERG, Mrs Chrissy Merrell G8OIV  
40 Fanton Walk, Shotgate, Wickford, Essex SS11 8QT

Please include an SAE for confirmation and membership card

Please indicate if you do not wish your details to be held on computer (for ERG use only)



## Essex Repeater Group *Summer 1999 Newsletter*

© Essex Repeater Group - Summer 1999



### **BOB MAKES THE GRADE !**

If you have read the Christmas newsletter you would remember me as a SWL. Well I passed and now have the callsign M1DTA - Delicious Tasting Apple. I am enjoying my radio very much and like all the frequencies. I'd like to thank all my friends for their push and encouragement

73, Bob Cheverall M1DTA

### **ERG PUBLICITY**

Some distinct themes are visible this year as ERG publicity efforts were stepped up. Rallies at Canvey and Cambridgeshire have proved to be very successful, and W&S and Colchester are on the calendar.

Our new club talks are under way too, with Braintree and Dengie clubs visited, and Colchester on Jul-8, Vange on Aug-12, and Chelmsford on Sep-7 scheduled.

The talks are given by Mike G4ZPE and Clive G1EUC using Powerpoint slides produced by Murray G6JYB.

ERG is open to requests from local groups who wish to know more about repeaters.

### **REPEATER DEVELOPMENTS !!!**

At the last AGM, and in the previous newsletter, members views were sought regarding current and future systems. We are now in a position to report further:-

- The committee have in principle decide to proceed with applications for both new 6m AND 23cm repeaters !
- For the existing 2m/70cm repeaters we are improving spares and backup plans, and migrating to 12.5KHz operation.
- We have also recently submitted a formal application for a significant increase in the output power of the GB3CMS 10GHz beacon.

So at a time when both the hobby generally and our own situation is under increasing pressure we have decided to adopt a positive approach to increasing our reach and attractiveness to new members.

Clearly some of the above is an intention and needs to be backed up by funds, equipment and regulatory clearances. The capital expense is largely being funded by equipment sales. However the running costs ought to come from members. And the best answer to the latter is more members! - hence our greater publicity efforts.

# Members News

## WELCOME BACK !

The Committee wishes to congratulate Tony Horsman G0MBA on his appointment as the regional RMC rep. He is no stranger to the post having previously held it some time ago. We wish him the best of luck !



## CHANGES TO THE MAIN B LICENCES AND THE NOVICE LICENCES.

**The following is an extract of a Press Release issued by the RA and RSGB on 21 May 1999:-**

A new class of licence, to be known as the A/B licence, and which will use the callsign series M5xxx, is to be introduced in the early autumn. This will provide access to all amateur bands, on passing the Radio Amateurs Examination and a 5 words per minute Morse test. 100 Watts PEP output will be allowed on the bands below 30MHz (the HF bands); and 400 Watts PEP output above.

The Novice A and Novice B licences will be enhanced in the summer to allow a higher transmitted power than at present. The power output will go up to 10 Watts PEP. New frequencies will include the 144MHz band, an SSB allocation on 3.5MHz and the extension of the existing Novice HF allocation to include the QRP CW calling frequencies.

It is expected that the World Radio Conference to be held in 2002 or 2003 will agree to the removal of mandatory Morse testing for access to frequencies below 30MHz. Following that decision, the existing licence structure will be replaced with an incentive-based system. In the meantime, discussions are under way to ensure that Morse and data sub-bands are safeguarded by incorporating them into licence schedules.

In summary, the improvements are:

- Access to the HF bands with a lower Morse test speed
- The Class A/B licence to provide access to all HF bands at the 100 Watt PEP level
- Higher output power on all Novice bands
- Wider allocations on existing Novice bands
- Access to 144MHz for Novice licensees
- Safeguards for Morse and data sub-bands
- In the longer term, the introduction of an incentive-based licensing system

Let us hope that these changes bring fresh impetus to the hobby. What do we, the Essex Repeater Group, have to do to attract more membership? The repeaters at Danbury require financial input each and every year to stay on air. We do not get any support from either the RSGB or the RA, to this end we have to rely on our membership. As indicated earlier in this edition, we are embarking on an undertaking which will eventually bring new repeaters in this area on the 6m and 23cm bands. The funds for this are being found by the re-sale of various items of test equipment etc, which is not a bottomless resource. If we are to continue with this we need members. Please try and encourage other users of the repeaters to join the group. A form for membership is included in the newsletter to help.

Dick G4GUJ

# Bowling Results

## ESSEX AMATEUR TENPIN BOWLING MAY 1999

May 1<sup>st</sup> saw the return of the tenpin bowling challenge at the Chelmsford Megabowl, and another record attendance by DA users and their friends and family. With fifty-four bowlers, thirteen more than last year, this event seems to be here to stay.

Last Octobers winner Alan G0EGX managed only twelfth position and a new name has gone onto the trophy, that of Nigel G6ZVV. He had been a favourite from the very first event but the trophy had illuded him until now. Best female score of the Evening went to Chrissy G8OIV and the wooden spoons went to Dave M1DCJ and Christine from the G1EUC party.

Watch out for the next challenge which should be the last Saturday in October, if you are not on my e.mail list and want to be please let me know at [passfield@cablenet.co.uk](mailto:passfield@cablenet.co.uk)

John G1JIJ (The Van Driver)

**Pictured above left** are winners Nigel and Chrissy, along with wooden spoon holder David

Pos'n	Bowler	1 <sup>st</sup> Game	2 <sup>nd</sup> Game	Total
1	Nigel G3XVV	155	147	302
2	Tony G0JYI	159	171	280
3	Malcolm G3XVV	134	135	269
4	Alan G0TTM	133	124	257
5	Geoff G8GNZ	114	135	249
6	Steven son of G8GNZ	137	110	247
7	Simon M0ASJ	112	130	242
8	Bob G0RSW	115	124	239
9	Clive G1EUC	96	141	237
10	John G1JIJ	108	110	228
11	Ron G0PJZ	108	114	222
12	Alan G0EGX	83	136	219
13	Chrissy G8OIV	99	120	219
14	Mork	98	120	218
15	Dave G7GVK	96	121	217
16	Den	102	110	212
17	Dick G0ULU	105	103	208
18	Lisa SWL	120	88	208
19	Emma with G8GNZ	109	88	197
20	Jenny Mrs HCD	81	112	193
21	Bob G0PEY	81	111	192
22	Roy the Boy	90	98	188
23	Jan Mrs. PJZ	87	95	182
24	June Mrs JIJ	108	71	179
25	Chris Mrs GVK	100	73	173
26	Kevin	101	66	167
27	Steve G7RGG	80	86	166
28	Kirsty G8GNZ party	83	82	165
29	Lyn EUC party	80	84	164
30	Mick	98	64	162
31	Karl G7NMI	83	77	160
32	Mrs GNZ	85	74	159
33	Stephanie	86	72	158
34	Dick G4GUJ	79	77	156
35	Becky GNZ party	64	76	140
36	David G7VCW	76	64	140
37	Hannah	45	91	136
38	Jackie	51	85	136
39	Bunny	78	54	132
40	Mary lou	57	75	132
41	Simon G7HCD	56	75	131
42	Sandra GNZ party	53	77	130
43	Paul G7CGC	77	50	127
44	Laurie G0JAO	55	69	124
45	Terry M1CXC	58	63	121
46	Marisa EUC party	65	56	121
47	Annette Mrs TTM	60	54	119
48	Cath Mrs ULU	37	80	117
49	Bob M1DTA	62	51	113
50	Rosie Mrs VCW	70	42	112
51	Tracy Mrs CGC	41	39	80
52	Jeanette M1CKG	27	48	75
53	David M1DCJ	33	39	72
54	Christine EUC party	10	50	60