

Thames Amateur Radio Group

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73s de M0XKG

Dear TARG members, it is with some regret that I write to you as Chair for the last time. I have decided to stand down from the role of Chair, with immediate effect. Let me say that is for a number of happy reasons. Work commitments for myself and XYL, Alice, will see us move out of the area. This will make it very difficult for me to be Chair. So I have taken the decision to make a clean break at this time. On the plus side there is a good chance I will be able to work a number of club members on HF at last.



I am glad that John, M0LFX, will step up from Vice Chair to Acting Chair until such time that we can call a General Meeting. I am sure you will all agree that John will do an excellent job.

My journey through the club over the last two and a half years as trainee, ordinary member, trainer, assisting on the committee and then finally becoming Chair has been really excellent. I have enjoyed every minute. My huge thanks to all the committee and members who have made me feel so welcome in this role, as well as simply just welcome in the club.

I think 2020 was a year best moved on from and I am hopeful 2021 will bring a new lease of life the club and a return to the halcyon days of Target Nites and Club Talks. I will continue to be a member of TARG, albeit at a lower profile, so look out for me joining webinars and Zello chats.

Ken M0XKG

Procedure

There was a Committee Meeting on Sat 16th Jan to review the situation and plan club activities.

The Constitution allows the Vice-Chair to act as Chairperson until there can be a full election. This allows the club to keep going with someone at the helm. We still need to have our AGM as soon as possible (postponed from last Nov); and we'll keep you updated on the procedure for that to happen.

Mark M0IEO. Secretary

CQ de M0LFX

Hello TARG members, Many thanks to Kenny who has led us through some difficult times during lockdown. As the former Vice-Chair it now falls to me to assume the post until we can have a formal election.



Just so you know, I am intending to stand for Chairperson at the election but any Full Member is also entitled to stand. This will create a vacancy for an enthusiastic Full member of TARG to join the Leadership team. A strong leadership team, like ours, is the backbone of any great club and is one reason why TARG is so successful. Please give this matter some thought if you have something to give to the club's future.

On a happy note, I can't wait to return to Jubilee Hall with talks, live demonstrations and TARG Nite to build, repair, upgrade and operate the various equipment that our hobby contains. However, if the return is delayed then rest assured your active committee is still planning for the future with a range of interesting Webinars and, once circumstances allow, a return to Jubilee Hall and Field Days. Until then stay safe enjoy your radio and good DX

John M0LFX

Winner

Congratulations go to Les, G4JDS, for winning the G4OAD Memorial Trophy for the student having made the most progress or having promoted the use of CW. You can hear Les on 144.060 MHz every Sun at 8pm.



EssexCW classes have restarted every Thurs from 7pm via Skype:

<https://tinyurl.com/qyv83cd>

Zoom



Invite to an online presentation about using the Amateur Repeater on the International Space Station.

Arranged by Acorns Radio Club but open to anyone on Sat 23rd Jan at 4pm, apply to Nick via:

ttt@taarc.co.uk

New Net for Digital

Join Oscar 2E1HWE every Sat for 90mins of TOP TALK! A topical current affairs Call-In where you "The Amateur" get to choose the topic! Want to get something off your mind? Straight talking no nonsense one on one conversation starts at 21:30hrs UTC on the FreeSTAR Network.



How to Access - FreeSTAR	
Echolink users -	Node 607535 (2E1HWE-L)
	Public Node - 53375
Alistar users -	Repeater Node - 53399
	FreeDMR TG23426
	DV Scotland DMR+ TG23426 Slot 1
	Phoenix TG23426
DMR users -	TGIF TG23426
	TGIF Prime TG23426
	OZ-DMR TG23426
	DCS005 Z (United Kingdom)
D-Star users -	DCS750 X (New Zealand)
	DCS235 X (Australia)
YSF users -	XLX750 X
	XLX235 X

Essex RF users can access via simplex Gateway MB7IPB in Hullbridge on 145.2125 MHz 110.9Hz

TASTER Day

As extension of the Beyond Exams, TARG are planning a one day "Taster" at Jubilee Hall during the summer. There will be a host of practical skills to participate in including:

- Fitting plugs to coax cable
- Antenna building and testing
- Calling on HF
- Digital Modes including FT8
- Morse Code
- Field Strength Estimation
- Help with Maths for exams

Some of these will count towards your Beyond Exams accreditation.

TARG Webinars

5th February: Antenna Matching Units
5th March: Astronomy
2nd April: Beyond Exams

All webinars are at 8pm with the link shown on the Home Page of the TARG Website. These will continue until meetings can resume at Jubilee Hall.