

# Thames Amateur Radio Group

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## Committee Update



Thank you to everyone who responded to the email from the Club Secretary, Mark M0IEO, seeking authority to proceed with the temporary appointment of:

- John M0LFX as Chair (photo right), and
- Brian 2E0EUD as Vice Chair (photo left)

This means the club can continue to run efficiently with all the behind the scenes work for a packed diary of events.

Just to clarify; the Annual General Meeting will take place as soon as the club can re-open for normal business later this year. Once we have confirmation of when that will be the Secretary will issue the statutory notices calling the AGM and inviting any eligible Club Member to stand for any of the positions on the Committee.

We are very keen to have new people join the committee, either as an elected Executive, Ordinary member or as a non-elected seconded if you have a special skill to contribute. A flow of fresh ideas is essential to the vibrancy of the club.

At the AGM will we also ask for a vote on a proposed amendment to the Constitution to allow the club to function in the event of an unforeseen emergency (like a pandemic!). We will also ask members to renew their membership, at a reduced rate, and sign the latest GDPR authority.

It sounds all rather tedious but necessary for the club to act with transparency and fairness.

## Mentoring

Lockdown put TARG training courses on hold. Which was a disappointment as the training team had invested a lot of time updating material for the amended syllabus with new dynamic style of teaching in small groups.

But it is not wasted. At the moment the emphasis is on self-teaching but the training team is still available over the phone or online for mentoring. There is no better time to jump on the bandwagon and study for your next licence.

## Antenna Matching Units

The February Webinar was led by Mark M0IEO on the subject of AMUs. This attracted the highest number of attendees since our Webinars started. This was the latest in a series of top rated presentations by Club members. A real benefit is the ability to ask questions during and after the talk. This interaction is what makes our live talks more authentic than watching a video.

Many thanks to Andrew M0ONH who hosts these webinars. He keeps a grip on the technical side so the guest speaker can concentrate on what they are saying.

There is online access of many of the talks on the lower part of the Newsletter's Page on the TARG Website. You'll find an index of previous presentations including the .pdf version of the presentations about AMUs, Field Strength Estimation, Raspberry Pi and even sound files from Andy's (M0IXY) talk in March 2020 about how to identify curious sounds on the band.



The next three webinars are:

- 5 March: Astronomy, by Andrew M0ONH and Andy M0IXY
- 2 April: Beyond Exams, by Andy M0IXY
- 7 May: The Vulcan Bomber, by John M0LFX

## Looking Ahead

We have provisional plans for a post-lockdown weekend TARGfest at Jubilee Hall and field days. The plan is to offer a catch up on many of the practical skills and tuition that has been missed since we had to stop TARGnite. Dates and events will be published as soon as possible for the summer.

