

# Thames Amateur Radio Group

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## Two Top TARGs get Trophies



Belinda M6JNX and Mark M0IEO, both committee members at TARG, have invigilated over 120 RSGB online exams between them. With 1, 2 or 3 candidates at a time, for Foundation or Intermediate exams, that's about 250 individual exams.

There were technical challenges, like setting up of contact, getting WebEx to run on their machine and the RSGB Testreach system; it could take all afternoon to get three candidates up and running. The personal time commitment was considerable – and all for the benefit of others.

Some anecdotes:

- One candidate got “very cross and vocal” with the IT but the system was working perfectly, he had just forgotten to turn the speakers on!
- Someone was so worried about the exam that when he got his pass mark they burst into tears.
- Another person was trying to recall Ohm’s Law by talking out loud and had a full blown argument with himself.

Their citation (abridged) reads:

*“It is with great pleasure that I write to inform you that the RSGB Board and Learning Delivery Team have agreed that you should jointly receive the Kenwood Trophy with the other Remote Invigilators. Congratulations on this award - which the Board and Learning Delivery Team feel is richly deserved”.*

When the club reopens in July there will be lots of opportunities for all club members to get involved, in a little or large way, with various tasks needed to keep the club running and help new people into the hobby.

## CW Boot Camp

Essex CW is the premier school to learn and improve your CW. They hold weekly classes online and post lockdown may resume to classes at Danbury. Their annual “Boot Camp” has visitors from all over the UK, and abroad. To book your place for the 2021 Boot Camp on 16<sup>th</sup> October, contact Andy: [g0ibn1@yahoo.com](mailto:g0ibn1@yahoo.com)

## Naked Heart Walk



Nigel M0ICH and XYL will be raising money for the British Heart Foundation on 3<sup>rd</sup> July. Both their Dads died of a heart attack. To sponsor them visit: [justgiving.com/fundraising/janina-nigel-walk](https://justgiving.com/fundraising/janina-nigel-walk)

## June Webinar



Guest speaker Keith G0FEA explained how to contact the International Space Station, why some Amateur Radio Satellites are called “Oscar”, and lots more. If you missed it, then it is viewable from the TARG website until Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June.

## AGM – 2nd July 8pm

Subject to confirmation after 14<sup>th</sup> June; we back at Jubilee Hall to elect a new Committee, take part in a super raffle for a Beofeng Radio and learn about the many exciting plans for the development club.

## Dates for Diary



**20<sup>th</sup> June:** TARG Chair, John M0LFX is also a volunteer with the Vulcan Restoration Trust based at Southend Airport. They have a ticketed open day on 20th June. John will be operating a Special Event Station. Look up GB2VUL on [QRZ.com](http://QRZ.com) for information.

**12-20 June:** TARG member Oscar, 2E1HWE, will be part of “Gateways on the Air” promoting portable and mobile activity. <https://gota.freestar.network/>



## First Field Day of 2021

On Sat 5<sup>th</sup> June, 12 TARG members met at Hadleigh Country Park for some practical radio. The sun came out and we were joined by spectators from the bovine and human community. Several antennas were set up (arrows) giving excellent lift over the Thames.



One of the discussions for the AGM will be whether the membership wants more practical events like this, either at Jubilee Hall or field days, and whether the popular webinars should replace the physical speaker. Have your say by attending the AGM.