

# Thames Amateur Radio Group

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## Welcome to the June 2022 newsletter.

Please also visit the website, details above. The website has diaries, useful information, and an archive of what TARG has published for a number of years - it's a real mine of practical usefulness!

## 14 gathered for May's Club Night on the 6<sup>th</sup>,

HF operating upstairs and in the main hall VHF operation via a 2M/70cm ladder line antenna on a light weight 10 metre fibre glass mast on the outside of the building. We welcomed a new potential member who got into some soldering practice, and who came back to our 20th May club night meeting, getting some vital 1-1 teaching on practical radio operation, safety and set building tasks, all reintroduced into what a Foundation level exam candidate has to prove they can do. The club is lucky that Mark M0IEO is an experienced operator, a source of masses of expertise, a tutor on all things radio, an invigilator, and can sign off candidates' practicals.

We hope members caught the item on **BBC 1's Country File** that showcased radio amateurs atop the UK's highest **Summits, On The Air (SOTA.)** SOTA featured in our last TARG Club night, and the footage from the BBC will be on i-player if you missed it.

**TARG summerecamp:** Jubilee weekend saw TARG members attending Muggeridge Farm Battlesbridge for a weekend of radio play with the Special Event call sign GB2PJE. Five units camped for the weekend and this year day visitors were allowed to attend, some setting up stations to take advantage of good band conditions. Andrew M0ONH set up his new Arrow II antenna and worked the ISS and heard several other satellites, experimental antennas were set up and tested by Steve G4HBA and Mike G8EFG, Gary M5YRG and Jo M0JOZ worked HF and VHF and Mark M0IEO concentrated on 20m HF yielding contacts with NX4TT in Florida and WB3JIA in Pennsylvania to name but a few on only 40W of RF output. The weather was kind with the only rain on Sunday morning.



**Vulcan XL426** stationed at Southend Airport has an "Open Day" on Father's Day 19th June. The following Saturday 25th June, a group of TARG's female operators will transmit and receive from inside a restored military tank: **TOTA, or Tanks On The Air!** If you intend to be there on either date, you will need to register to do so. John M0LFX our Chair is involved, and can guide you.

**Radio Active nights** are popular and lively with some great learning and instruction, practical radio activities and conversations going on. There isn't one in June, already a packed month. **Do come to the next, 15th July**, focused on satellite, some work going outdoors if the weather is kind. There won't be a Radio Active in August given holidays prevail. See the TARG website for more!