

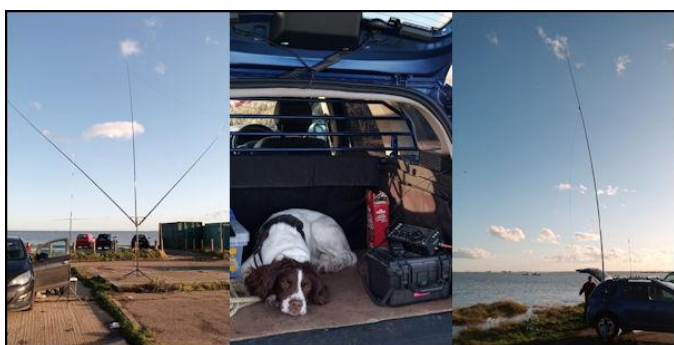
Thames Amateur Radio Group

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The First Meeting of 2023

We can't launch into the January newsletter without recording the gathering of TARG members at Two Tree Island on Boxing Day. WX a bit nippy, as you would expect for December, but propagation on 17m and 40m was outstanding. One of many TARG events during 2022 that kept the practical hobby alive. The success of this event has led directly to the topic for the Radio Active evening on 20th January "Going Portable". Bring your own kit and/or go-bag to share what works for you.



The first meeting of 2023 was our annual non-radio subject (always a popular distraction). For those who missed the presentation of almost five years ago – how times flies – we had another demonstration of the dynamics of archery.

Canvey Rally



Canvey Radio Rally is back on the 5th February. TARG have a table and we are keen for members to help run our stand. Please speak with John MOLFX to offer support. The Rally presents a chance for us to meet members from other clubs. The world of Amateur Radio is evolving so let's find out what is working and what is not.

TARG Friday Night Net

Over the past few months, this has really taken off. The number of attendees has increased and we are pleased to welcome callers who are not club members, but have something useful to say. Topics have including everything from preserving the battery charge in a cold climate to questions about licence conditions. Thank you to the Controllers and to Steve G4OCP for organising the rota.

What's On in February

Over the past two years we have been privileged to welcome Dave M0TAZ to address the club, both as the RSGB Regional representative (where he was grilled in front of the audience at Jubilee Hall) and Online where he shared his extensive knowledge of SDR radio.

So, we are delighted to welcome him back as our guest on the 3rd February to Jubilee Hall. A lot has happened since his last visit – especially in terms of the training arrangements to obtain an Amateur Radio Licence – and there might even be some rumblings of changes for the future.



Dave is an accomplished speaker and very aware of concerns of RSGB members and the challenge of addressing them within the resources available. Also, we can expect another useful insight into the world of WebSDR – this is a massive advantage for listeners who do not have the space or money for a big HF antenna or an expensive radio.

Radio Active on 17th February

You either love it, or hate it (but often, as with many personal preferences for different modes, those who hate it are usually the ones who can't do it or don't use it). Well, this is a fun chance to give CW a go – make a fool of yourself, and realise it is not that difficult after all!

CW is making a resurgence; so much so that the BBC did a news item on Radio 4 about it (annoyingly for a state institution you must sign-in with your personal details to listen to it):

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001h638>

A reminder that EssexCW run training courses for CW and has a new website [EssexCW.uk](https://www.essexcw.uk) Several members of TARG are indebted to EssexCW for their training. They run a Sunday night net on 144.060 MHz, where you can hear TARG, CARS and SEARS members talking to each other at up to 25 words per minute – but there are slower (QRS) options available.

