

Thames Amateur Radio Group

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AGM on 3rd Nov

It had to be done and was a most convivial occasion with much to celebrate. We were pleased to welcome one of our newest members to proceedings.

It started with the Chair, John M0LFX, giving a glowing "thank you" to the outgoing Treasurer, Belinda M6JNX for all her hard work over many years. She has been awarded an engraved plaque and a certificate of Outstanding Service on behalf of TARG.



John M0LFX (Chair) and Andy M0IXY (Secretary)

This was followed by the Secretary's report in which Andy listed some of the many topics made available to members at club meeting. He also gave a list of field events we held, such as at Southend Airport, and a shorter list of events that had to be cancelled due to bad weather or other factors beyond our control.

- Jan: Field Event at Two Tree
- Feb: WebSDR (Amateur radio on your laptop)
- Mar: Automatic Packet Reporting System
- Apr: Emergency Services Radio
- May: Air Band Radio
- June: Amateur Spectrum above UHF
- July: Log4OM software (logging of QSOs)
- Aug: Kite Antennas
- Sept: Radio Astronomy for Amateurs
- Oct: Inter-Club get together
- Nov: AGM

The Treasurer's report showed that we are in a very healthy position to facilitate events for the next 12 months. The new elected officers are:

- Chair: Huw M0LHT
- Vice Chair: M0LFX
- Secretary: Andy M0LFX
- Treasurer: Debs M0LHD

Next summer we are likely to see some of the indoor monthly meeting replaced by outdoor field events.

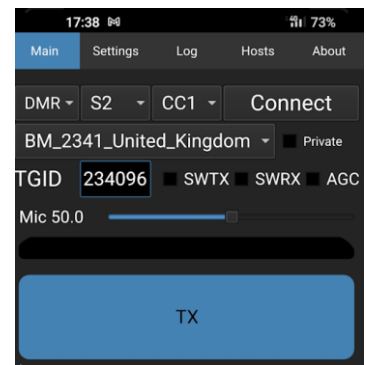
New Style Net

Thanks were given to Steve G4OCP for organising the monthly net via GB3DA. The nets are such an important addition to what TARG can deliver.

The 3rd Friday of every month will now be DMR Net using TARG's very own Brandmeister TG of 234096.

If you don't own a DMR radio, no problem, there is the DroidStar App that works on your mobile phone. It needs a little bit of effort to configure it, but TARG is here to help.

This will open the TARG net to those (increasing) number of members who live outside the coverage of GB3DA.



The next club meeting is on Fri 1st December, where the theme will be DMR. So, if you are not sure what it is, how to use it, or got stuck trying to get it work – TARG will do our best to explain it.

What are the Plans for 2024?

The new Chair touched on this during his acceptance speech. Meetings at Jubilee Hall are great and the range of speakers has been fantastic, but, looking ahead, there is a shift of focus to more field events. Why?

One reason is that amateur radio is about actually using radio rather than talking about it. It's about putting the theory into practice.



Picture shows Nigel M0ICH in an Essex country park with a portable YAGI making contact with Shropshire. Did it work first time, of course not! But working out why is what TARG field events will be all about.