

Thames Amateur Radio Group

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We're off to a good start

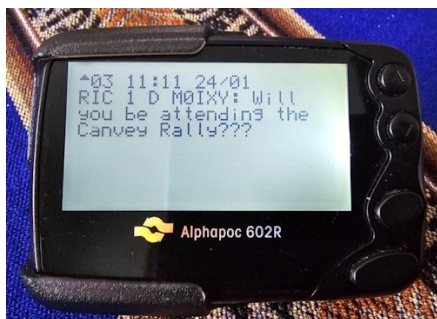
There's wasn't a January Newsletter so there is a bumper amount of information for this issue. TARG have been super busy and the newsletters both an archive of what we have done and a calendar of what we are planning to do.

By tradition, the first meeting of the year is on a non-radio subject. This time it was also about wavelengths, but of a different kind. Andy M0IXY and Maggie M7LCF gave us an introduction to the Northumbrian Smallpipes. There was a technical explanation of how they work followed by a demonstration of the 17 Key Charlton Pattern pipeset in traditional G pitch, intended for indoor performances.



Beeping Pagers

Pocket Pagers – they never went away. At one time a status symbol for being important; in fact, pagers were very useful as a compact one-way communication device. The first ones just sent a beep; later models had words. They were usurped by mobile phones, but their miniature size has an advantage.



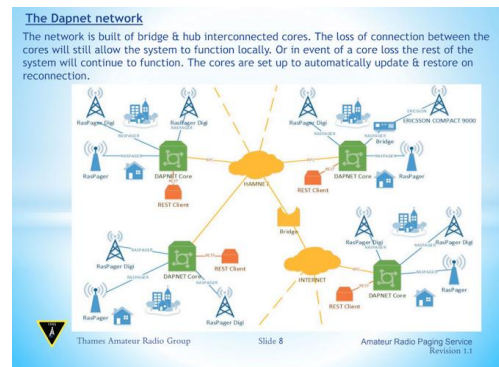
They are still available on the Amateur Radio network and the Club meeting on 3 Feb had a real time demo of one in action.

The meeting was live streamed for TARG members.

Andy M0IXY, as always, had gone to considerable lengths to prepare a very informative presentation. He described the DAPNET (see slide in opposite column) which is the core of the Amateur Radio Paging Network.

In essence, the pagers can be programmed to receive generic data, such as weather warning, and receive one-to-one messages which can be sent by an authorised user (a licensed Amateur Radio operator) from a computer or compatible mobile phone. Remember, a message can be sent to multiple pagers simultaneously.

The pager network (below). Even if one node is down, the others will still work.



Canvey Rally

TARG were at the Canvey Rally again this year with a stall inviting visitors to find out all the benefits the club can offer. The rally gave another opportunity for clubs to “network” showing that we all share the same interest from wherever we may be located in the county.



Photos shows Vice-Chair John, M0FX, at the stall with our new publicity pull up stand and new handout leaflets on the table. There was a good turn out from TARG Committee.

News in Brief

- We are pleased to welcome a new member to TARG.
- Keep an eye on the Diary page of the website for all the upcoming events.
- The DMR net (to include those TARG members who live outside the range of the FM repeater) will be using Brandmeister Talk Group 235226. It's always on the 3rd Friday at 8pm