

Thames Amateur Radio Group

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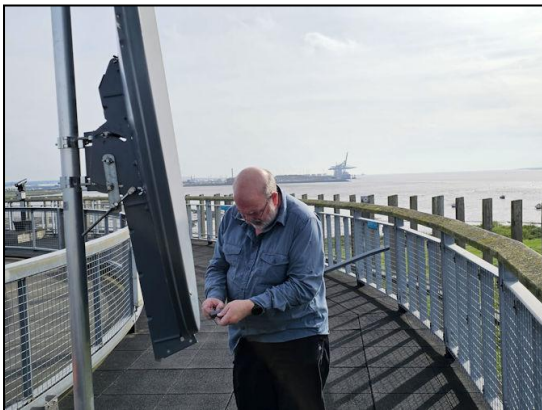
All This and More

A reminder that annual TARG subscriptions are due for the bargain price of just £20 per year. These are due by the end of April with a 3 months grace period after which your data is removed. The money is for our insurance, hall hire and other expenses. This can be paid in person at the next club meeting or via BACS (preferred) with your Call Sign as Reference:

Business Account
"Thames Amateur Radio Group",
Sort 20-49-29 : Account 63242560.

TARG+Acorns@EWT

On Sat 13th April, Thurrock Acorns Amateur Radio Club met up with TARG at the Essex Wildlife Trust on the banks of the river Thames. It was the 10th Anniversary of Acorns using the callsign GB1EWT. Acorns operated on VHF and HF while TARG's contribution was to bring equipment to operate through the QO-100 satellite.



Two members set up a 1.4m dish which posed some technical challenges as the operating position was well over 40 meters away. At QO-100 13cm & 3cm uplink & downlink frequencies, 40m feeder losses would mean no TX power reaching the dish or signals being received. The solution is to have all the RF components RX & TX close to the dish on microwave rated short 2m feeders and control them via a network cable. Nevertheless, 22 contacts were made from Brazil to Russia. The problem was the high winds causing the dish to flex so much it became too risky to continue. Watch this:-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6zdQ9y1SDok&t>

Four other TARG members operated HF and VHF on the day from our regular spot at Two Tree Island.

Prostate Problems

Over the past few years, three of our members have suffered from prostate problems. Two of those tested positive for cancer. Telling others so they can be away of the signs and symptoms is important.

Here are some key pointers by Steve G4OCP.

- Involve your Partner or friend.
- Get diagnosed early. Insist on PSA blood tests.
- Know the symptoms and get checked by GP.
- Have a Biopsy.
- Be Informed: Research & Read
- Appointment with Urology.
- Appointment with Consultant.
- Pre-Op appointments.
- Treatment.

This is where my Journey carries on down the Surgery route – Part 2 to follow next month. The full Journey, not just the headlines, will be available as a download.

Lots More Radio to Come

TARG has a packed agenda, here's a sample:

- TARG Friday nets; FM and DMR. Increasing popular, often into double figures, with a variety of topical radio related subjects.
- May: Launch of GB7IX – Essex's first Digital Voice Multi-Mode Internet Connected Repeater. Keep an eye on the QRZ page.
- D-Day Special Event: 6th June 1944 (+80 yrs). Like D-Day itself, the plans are classified Top Secret! The location of the disembarkation of the TARG shack will be disclosed nearer the time.
- Slough Fort at Allhallows, Kent (right).
Special event station GB0SLF on 6th July.



For more details on all of these events, and reports on previous club nights, check our website and follow us on Social Media.