

# Thames Amateur Radio Group

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Bluesky member @gx0trg.bsky.social | non-member <https://bsky.app/profile/gx0trg.bsky.social>

## Club Evening Enthusiasm

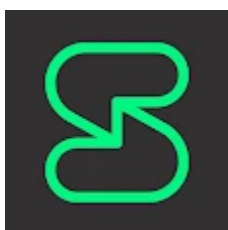
We often emphasise the value in attending the Club Evenings in Wickford to get the most out of your membership and your radio hamming enjoyment. This was wonderfully demonstrated at our March meeting. The subject was Morse Code. Not everybody's cup of tea, until they tried it!



What looked like a confusion of cables was, in fact, a specialist training tool kindly lent to us for the evening by Essex CW. Each participant sat at the table with headphone and a Morse Key so everyone in the group could hear what was being sent. Two Essex CW trainers were present to lead the session.

The success was due to "QRS" – slow speed – which meant everyone, even if they had never done CW before, was able to join in. The feedback was so positive that TARG are now going to re-introduce the QRS CW net prior to the regular Friday night nets, starting at 19:30 on 144.075MHz. Depending on your radio type, don't forget to set your mode to USB-CW and to transmit your "break-in" must be set to "on".

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The website, emails and newsletters give helpful update but there is also the TARG members-only App "Session" which avoids sharing personal data. To find out more, contact our Club Secretary

## CW Learning Aids



Even if you don't have a CW compatible radio (unfortunately it doesn't work on a handheld radio as CW used SSB rather than FM), there are still plenty of ways to join in.

You can listen in via the members-only TARG SDR which even has its own CW de-coder to help to read what is being sent. And, there are many CW phone apps available for both Apple and Android. Look up "Morse Expert" on Google Play.

## Coming Up

As always there are the TARG Friday nets at 8pm with both FM, DMR – and now preceded by CW. In April there is No club meet in Wickford as instead there are two AOTA (Airfields on the Air) field events:

- 4/5 April – North Weald Aerodrome. GBONWA,
- 11/12 April – Southend Airport, MX0VUL

You are very welcome attend in person but please contact Secretary in advance for arrival instructions, or call in via radio. Look at that blue sky from last year's event.

