



# Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society Newsletter

## April Meeting

Tue 4-April-2023, 7:30pm  
Danbury Village Hall

## Constructors Competition

By CARs Members

Our annual competition returns - complete with Cash Prizes!

Electronics, metalwork or even software are all valid entries. The only entry rule is that it must be safe.

The Prizes and certificates are for:-

- 1st Place - £30
- 2nd - £20
- 3rd - £10
- Newcomers - £20

You will need to present your entry to the audience, who will vote during the break. Dont be shy! - bring your effort along - both hardware and software are eligible.

As usual it is also a great social opportunity to meet and chat to friends.

All welcome – free raffle and refreshments. Donations to Essex Air Ambulance

NB: Physical meeting – no Zoom



**Volunteers:** We still need a Secretary and other roles filled, so please do chat to us and see how you can contribute – whether its special event operating, a talk, training, or some other special interest

**Marconi Day - Saturday April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Register Now to Attend/Operate!**

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## Club Diary

Tue 4-Apr-2023	Club Meeting: Construction Competition – with Cash Prizes!	Danbury Village Hall
Sat 22-Apr-2023	IMD – International Marconi Day	BAE Great Baddow
Tue 2-May-2023	Club Meeting: Practical/Skills/Social Night - (Brickworks)	Danbury Village Hall
Tue 6-Jun-2023	Club Meeting: Essex Air Ambulance talk / presentation	Danbury Village Hall

## Club Nets

CARS meets for talks/events on the first Tuesday of the month. The subsequent Tuesdays have club radio nets as follows below and dates listed on our calendar at [www.g0mwt.org.uk/main/events/categories/net/](http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/main/events/categories/net/) :-

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in the Month – VHF**  
 The CARS VHF FM Net uses GB3DA from Danbury starting at 8pm (local).  
 GB3DA is 145.125MHz Input and 145.725MHz Output - and CTCSS-only (110.9Hz), 2min timeout  
 If for any reason GB3DA is not available then 145.375 Simplex will be used. Vertical aerials are best for this
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in the Month - UHF**  
 The CARS UHF FM Net uses GB3ER from Danbury and starting at 8pm (local).  
 GB3ER is 434.675MHz Input and 433.075MHz Output - and is CTCSS-only  
 Vertical aerials are best.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday in the Month - HF**  
 The CARS 80m Net on "3756kHz" Night, SSB and starting at 8pm (local).  
 Horizontal aerials are best. The idea is to enable distant CARS Members to join the Net.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday in the Month (when there is one!) - MF**  
 This is the CARS Top Band Net on 1947/1950 kHz +/-QRM, LSB and starting at 8pm (local).  
 Horizontal aerials are usually used for this Net. A reminder - limit your power to a max of 30 Watts, please.

## Training & Morse Classes

### 2023 CARS Training classes at Danbury:

- Foundation 43 - date tbc – Enquiries welcome**

If you are interested in these or other opportunities in 2023, please contact **John O'Connell M0JOC** our training coordinator and Exam Secretary. Please also spread the word to potential candidates!

**We can also accommodate fast-track courses at Danbury to assist with the Intermediate, Full and the new Direct-to-Full (D2F) exams that started in January-2023**

John can be contacted via [training2023@g0mwt.org.uk](mailto:training2023@g0mwt.org.uk) or 07868-004380

More info and other updates are at: [www.g0mwt.org.uk/training](http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/training)

**Online Morse Classes:** Thursday evenings at 7pm. Coordinated by Andy G0IBN who has on-air practice sessions and via Skype too... <https://join.skype.com/clsfKXKmiNvf>

- contact Andy via [morse2023@g0mwt.org.uk](mailto:morse2023@g0mwt.org.uk) - or feel free to enquire about the Essex CW Boot Camp

 Follow @TrainWithCARS

## March Meeting: Practical/Brickworks Night

The March meeting was the first event based on CARS registration as a RSGB Brickworks club. The occasion proved to be popular for socialising etc whilst the practical topics included:

- Station setups
- Modern Amateur Test Equipment
- Antenna Tuning - hands
- Echolink App by Jim Salmon 2E0RMI

It has parallels with former Skill Nights, but we now run this under the umbrella of the RSGB Brickworks scheme where participating amateur radio clubs have committed to helping all licensed amateur radio operators discover what the hobby has to offer, offer guidance etc. So it is wider than its strapline – not just Foundation – but for all amateurs in the spirit of self-training and 'Building Experience'. Note that many of the listed activities can be at home and/or on air as well as club nights. CARS is an awarding body for the scheme certificates if you do have a serious go.

Murray had brought a long one of the latest analysers in the amateur market (SV4401A from Martyn Lynch) so people could try the VHF Dipole tuning practical; or as per the photo see how good one of our new bandpass filters is (which enable multiple HF stations to operate together)

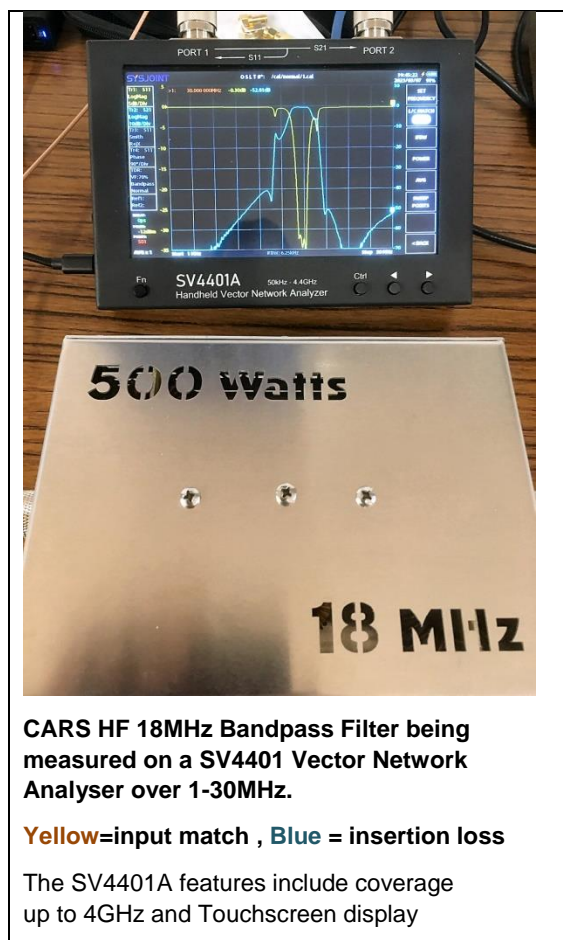
Later on we also had the return of the Quiz!

- based on CARS Training Foundation question that still challenged a few more experienced folk

Watch out for the next event, set for the May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting – it should be fun

More about Brickworks: [www.rsgb.org/brickworks](http://www.rsgb.org/brickworks)

And thanks to the kitchen volunteers! – helping things along



CARS HF 18MHz Bandpass Filter being measured on a SV4401 Vector Network Analyser over 1-30MHz.

Yellow=input match , Blue = insertion loss

The SV4401A features include coverage up to 4GHz and Touchscreen display

## Coronation Calls

CARS has acquired an NoV for the use of the 'R' (Royal) prefix, so during May, **GROMWT** will be in use.

There are quite a few other related amateur radio special events and activities

More info at [www.rsgb.org/coronation](http://www.rsgb.org/coronation)



## IMD Weekend, Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

Guglielmo Marconi was born on 25th April 1874. International Marconi Day is celebrated every year on the Saturday closest to his birthday.

CARS is registered as an official IMD award station and will be operating as **GX0MWT**.

This year International Marconi Day will be on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2023.

**CARS are able to operate from BAE Systems at Great Baddow, formerly the Marconi Research Centre.**

It is hoped to operate a couple of stations on HF (80 to 10m) and also on V/UHF - running from 1000 to 1600 BST. One aim is to achieve the award for working 15 other IMD stations.

### Operators / attendees:

CARS members wishing to attend should email Paul G4PVM – [g4pvm@g0mwt.org.uk](mailto:g4pvm@g0mwt.org.uk) by 15<sup>th</sup> April to let him know what times they plan to be on site and which bands they would prefer to operate on. NB pre-registration is essential



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## Sale/Free Items

Following Canvey Rally we still have a few items left in our G3CVI-SK Sale. Pop along to a CARS meeting to pick them up! Latest List below and other items: <http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/society/sales.htm>

General terms: CARS Members get first preference if demand is high; sold as seen; Buyer to collect  
Enquiries to Paul G4PVM: [g4pvm@g0mwt.org.uk](mailto:g4pvm@g0mwt.org.uk)

### Accessories

- BNOS low pass filter 6m filter. Part no. F50-L/U.
- CDE Model AR-30/AR-40 Solid state Direction Module Indicator (rotator controller).

**Books** (paper back unless stated) – free, but a donation would still be appreciated.

- Practical Wire Antennas by John Heys G3BDQ, RSGB 1989.
- Microwave Handbook Volumes 1 to 3 - by MW Dixon G3PFR, RSGB 1994
- The Radio Amateur's Handbook 1977 - by ARRL (700 pages).
- Slow Scan Television Explained - by Mike Wooding G6IQM, BATC 1992
- Radio Communication Handbook volumes 1 & 2, RSGB 1976 (hard back)
- The Amateur Radio Handbook (3rd edition) RSGB 1961 (hard back)
- Single Sideband for the Radio Amateur (1st edition) ARRL 1954.
- Admiralty Handbook of Wireless Telegraphy 1938 Volumes 1 & 2
- Signor Marconi's Magic Box - by Gavin Weightman

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Newsletter and Archive: <http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/newsletter>