



Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society Newsletter

December Meeting
Tue 5-Dec-2023, 7:30pm
Danbury Village Hall

Xmas Social
By CARs Members

CARS members, other amateurs/clubs and prospective trainees are welcome to join us for our Xmas Social at Danbury.

Nibbles, raffle and socialising - and perhaps a seasonal quiz too :)

Do come along, so you don't miss out on:-

- Seasonal nibbles - inc mince pies, sausage rolls etc
- Very Special Raffle Prizes tbc - but last years were Grouse, Cabernet, Pannetone, Breakfast box, Tiptree Jams etc

Refreshments are free, whilst its £2/ticket for the prize raffle.

If you haven't renewed your membership yet, it's a great opportunity to settle up on the night - bearing in mind its great value at just £5/yr and you can make our membership secretary Andy G0IBN very happy :-)

NB: Physical meeting – no Zoom

Previously: See here for [last years fun!](#)



REMINDER: Following the AGM – Membership Renewals are now due
Best value in Essex at just £5/pa

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Club Diary

Tue 5-Dec-2023	CARS Meeting – Xmas Social	Danbury Village Hall
Tue 9-Jan-2023	CARS Meeting – CW & Social evening (note date)	Danbury Village Hall
Sun 4-Feb-2024	Canvey Rally – Bargains galore on the CARS Table	Canvey Island

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/ :-

- **2nd 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
- **3rd 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.
- **4th 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.
- **5th 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

If you are interested in these or other opportunities in 2024, please contact **John O'Connell M0JOC** our training coordinator and Exam Secretary. Please also spread the word to potential candidates!

We can also accommodate exam-only sessions, or other fast-track courses at Danbury

John can be contacted via training2023@g0mwt.org.uk or 07868-004380

More info and other updates are at: www.g0mwt.org.uk/training - and the updated RSGB Course Finder

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/clsfKXKmlNvf>

- contact Andy via morse2023@g0mwt.org.uk - or feel free to enquire about the Essex CW Boot Camp

 Follow @TrainWithCARS

November Meeting: Build a Radio Night

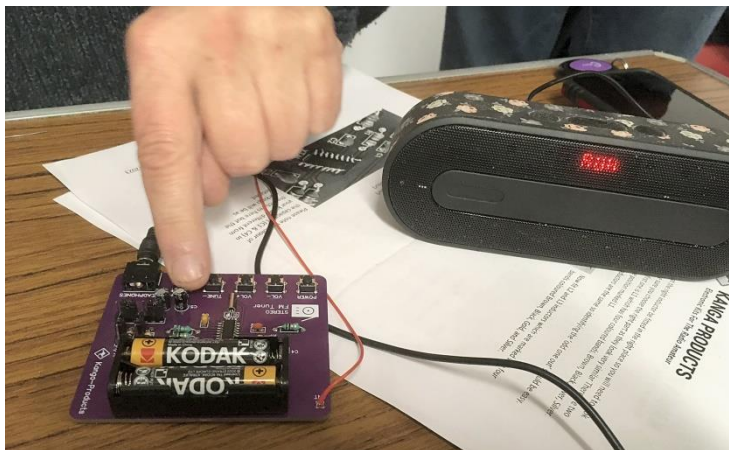
The November meeting had a practical theme. Attendees got the chance to build a free radio on the night.

We had a number of Kanga FM Radio kits to build on the night. These have good sensitivity, with touch button tuning and audio volume. Soldering and assembly proved to be quite easy and we had an audio amp/speaker on hand to listen to the result.

It wasn't all work, as many also turned up just for a natter and refreshments.



Builders in progress – aided by Bob, G4MDB



The moment of truth – does it work?!



Enjoying the evening – Chris G0IPU, Dorothy M0LMR, Richard G7OED

January – CW & Social

For our January club night on Tuesday 9th January 2024 at Danbury Village Hall we are pleased to welcome everyone - members and non-members to a night of CW (Continuous Wave) otherwise known as Morse Code.

We will have a live operating station using the club call sign GX0MWT (Marconi Wireless Telegraph) and you are invited to “have a go” and see who can get the longest distance QSO on the night.

Various Morse keys will be on display - straight keys, twin paddles etc, including a Marconi 365A straight key Serial Number 8999 used on a British Merchant Navy ship from 1939. There will also be an extremely rare “Rugby” key from Portishead Radio GKA manufactured by the Rugby workshops in 1983.



John O’Connell M0JOC will give a short presentation on these keys and their history.

You are welcome to bring along your own keys along for some tips and advice on setting up the keys and operating with CW, whether a beginner or “old hand”



Also on display will be a Racal 1217 rack mount receiver, this was also used at Portishead Radio GKA from the early 70’s until 1983 and covers 980 kHz - 30 MHz with AM, USB/LSB and CW modes. It was Racal’s first transistor receiver and they are also now very rare. It weighs 13.6kg

As usual, we will have the famous raffle - with tea/coffee, biscuits and a warm welcome for the New Year !



Racal 1217 receiver

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