



Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society Newsletter

June Meeting

Tue 4-Jun-2024, 7:30pm
Danbury Village Hall

Social inc IMD Talk & Quiz

By CARs Members

Our summer season starts with the June meeting which will have a social flavour but also features some radio too!

- Paul G4PVM will present on how we did on Marconi Day
- John M0JOC will have a radio themed Quiz
- Got other Questions ?
- just come along and ask!

All are welcome to come along - or just to meet up and socialise.

It also counts as an enjoyable part of the RSGB Brickworks Scheme

As usual we will have refreshments and a raffle as well.

All welcome to attend



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Club Diary

Tue 4-Jun-2024	CARS Meeting – Brickworks practical & Social night	Danbury Village Hall
Tue 2-Jul-2024	CARS Meeting – Vintage/Military Radio talk – Iain G0OZS	Danbury Village Hall
Tue 6-Aug-2024	CARS Social – Indian Meal (£10 deposit in advance)	Se7en Elephants, Baddow Road

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 training2024@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/clsfKXXKmINvf>

- "Beginners" class will be starting on Thursday 4th April,
- Other courses available are an "Improvers" class, 10 to 15wpm:
- "Morse Development Group" 15wpm+ : "Advanced" class for the techniques of "Head copying"

- contact Andy via morse2024@g0mwt.org.uk - or feel free to enquire about the Essex CW Boot Camp

 Follow @TrainWithCARS

May Meeting: MMDVM – Multimode Digital Voice

Our May meeting had a nicely illustrated presentation by by Oscar Wood 2E1HWE on multi-mode VHF/UHF Digital Voice and how it has been greatly enabled by MMDVM – Multimode Digital Voice Modems. These were pioneered in 2015 by Jonathan Naylor G4KLX. Low power MMDVM kits and modules are now widely available and often associated with Raspberry Pi controllers.

There are an increasing number of Digital Voice modes. Many use AMBE or FreeDV codecs, but also utilise quite different RF modulation schemes. MMDVM kit addresses the compatibility issues as it can be configured to auto-detect the various modes and handle the complexities of internet routing and reflectors.

MMDVM (search on Amazon!) is quite popular for domestic low power hotspots and the basis many simplex gateways. Their use in repeaters is somewhat rarer. However we heard how Oscar had one of the first new permits from Ofcom/RSGB-ETCC for **GB7IX** in Southend which is in the new Ofcom category of 5W erp repeater systems, ideally suited to local coverage and experimentation.

Using the club VHF/UHF antenna, Oscar gave a demonstration as well as some useful DV operating tips - where latency and multiple remotely linked users are a factor:-

- Leave a 3 second gap between overs
- PTT and leave a 1-2 second before talking
- Keep overs under 3 minutes to avoid repeater timeouts

GB7IX covers Southend and the Thames Estuary well on: 430.9375 / 438.5375 MHz
(7.6 MHz split, 110.9Hz CTCSS for FM) - initially using Yaesu C4FM with other modes to follow

 <p>The Road to the MMDVM</p> <p>Jonathan Naylor G4KLX Pacifcon 2018</p>   <p>Jonathan Naylor G4KLX – inc link to MMDVM video</p>	 <p>MMDVM supports D-STAR, DMR, YSF, P25, NXDN, M17, POCSAG, and even analog. This project has become a truly wonderful open-source project.</p>   <p>MMDVM covers a range of DV modes and FM</p>
      <p>There are a wide variety of Digital Voice Modes</p>	 <p>Essex's First Digital Voice Multi-Mode (MMDVM) Internet Connected Repeater.</p> <p>First Switch on for testing 3rd May</p> <p>CURRENT STATUS: OPERATIONAL (C4FM ONLY)</p> <p>RX: 430.9375 MHz + 7.6 Split</p> <p>CTCSS 110.9 Hz (Analogue Only)</p>  <p>GB7IX is a new 5W erp system in the Southend area</p>

Useful Links: <https://www.qrz.com/db/GB7IX> - and try the QR Codes above!

CARS Events coming up this summer...

The CARS Programme includes the following:-

July: Vintage / Military Radio

Iain Moffatt G0OZS from Ipswich will be visiting us and presenting on Vintage/Military radios. If you were at this year's Canvey Rally you would have seen him on the VMARS stand with a "B2" WWII SOE radio. For some background:-

- Iain: www.g0ozs.co.uk
- VMARS: www.vmars.org.uk

Iain is also the RSGB District Rep for Suffolk and has had an innovative career in telecomms at BT, so plenty of opportunity to ask about other topics too.

And of course we will have refreshments and a raffle as well!



August: CARS Meal

Following the enjoyable 2023 event, this year we will be at the Se7en Elephants.
10A Baddow Road, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 0DG.

Please register early inc a £10 Advance Deposit

September: Essex Table Top Sale

Get ready for a great recycling opportunity!

ARRL / LoTW Service & Security

Are you an ARRL member or LOTW user ?

The services are gradually recovering from a serious IT/cyber incident which included name & address info.
More info:

<https://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-systems-service-disruption>

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