



Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society Newsletter

December Meeting
Tue 2-Dec-2025, 7:30pm
Danbury Village Hall

Xmas Social
By CARs Members

Seasons Greetings!

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

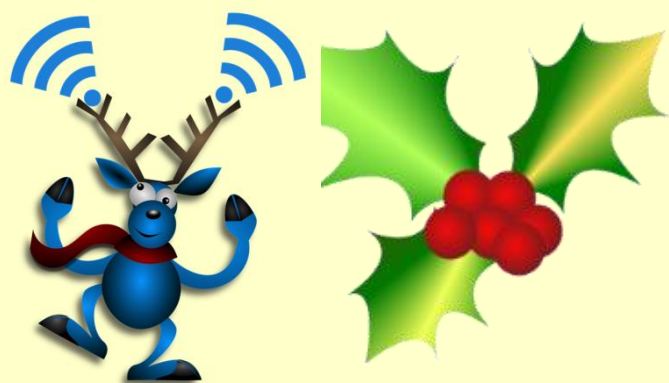
Nibbles, raffle and socialising - and perhaps a seasonal quiz too :)

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

- Seasonal nibbles - inc mince pies, sausage rolls etc
- Xmas Quiz
- Very Special Raffle Prizes

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 ☺



**SEASONS GREETINGS AND
ALL THE BEST FOR THE NEW YEAR!**

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Club Diary

Tue 2-Dec-2025	CARS Xmas Social	Danbury Village Hall
Tue 6-Jan-2026	CARS Meeting – Practical Skills Night	Danbury Village Hall
Tue 3-Feb-2026	CARS Meeting – QRP talk by Keith G3WGE	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/ :-

- **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 either training/revision or exams, please contact **John O'Connell M0JOC** our training coordinator and Exam Secretary. Places for our February 2026 Intermediate course are now available.

Please spread the word to potential candidates. John can be contacted via training2026@g0mwt.org.uk or 07868-004380. Bookings are now open for the autumn.

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 online by MS-Teams

- "Beginners" classes are available,
- 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 morse2026@g0mwt.org.uk

 Follow @TrainWithCARS

November Meeting: Practical Night

In a change of plan, November was a practical skills evening, whilst Andy Tyler's LF talk has been re-scheduled to be in 2026.

Coordinated by John M0JOC, the emphasis was hands-on, based on our popular kits; follow by a discussion on the recent Ofcom Phase-2/3 licence and callsign changes.

- Kit Building: FM Radio, Morse Tutor, IR-Barrier Alarm, Signal lamp/torch
- Soldering: Practice, PL259 Coax Connector assembly
- Ofcom: Callsign Changes - all about Ofcom Phase-2/3 (and beyond)

The photo below shows a very diligent bunch assembling and soldering kits.

Regarding Ofcom - we heard how the M8/M9 changes were already popular for many Intermediates, whilst some Full licensees were also changing so they could optimise their CW-ID. Bear in mind that any callsign change starts an automatic revocation of any other lower calls you may have.

Overall the good turnout led to a very enjoyable occasion, helped by the raffle, our usual supply of tea/coffee and biscuits. Our thanks to all! . The next similar session is expected to be our January meeting.



Kit Building in the Hawkins Room

Intermediate Calls

Existing Intermediate calls can be Amended based on:

- **2#0xyx** >>>> **M8xyz**
- **2#1xyx** >>>> **M9xyz**

Where # is a mandatory RSL for the 2 series, but optional for M8/9

Notes:

- Not automatic - You must **amend** your intermediate call on the Ofcom Portal
- New Intermediates: Can choose from other available M8 or M9 calls. Not 2s
- Existing Intermediates: Reservations for your current 'xyz' expire after 5 years

Callsign Changes and Limits

Previously...

- Lower licence level callsigns retained as you passed exams
- Many cases of multiple personal callsigns, notably at Full
- Restrictions on changing personal callsigns

Now...

- Automatic revocation of lower calls as you progress or change
- Maximum of 5 callsigns (eg if holding multiple club calls)
- Ability to change a personal call once every five years
- Gradual move to one personal callsign per licensee

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- Further reading re Callsign Changes – see the [RSGB Guidance Webpage](#)

Training & Skills in 2026

The CARS Training & Skills programme is all set for 2026:-

Training for Licensing/Exams

CARS has announced an Intermediate and Full Fastrack Training Course at Danbury Village Hall on Thursday February 5th, 12th and 19th from 7pm to 9pm.

The course is aimed at candidates who wish to undertake revision and final exam preparation, face-to-face with our very experienced trainers. Sessions include typical exam questions and in-depth explanations of the answers. We can also assist on specific areas of the syllabus where greater understanding of a syllabus topic may be needed, as well as tips and advice on best exam practice.

Please see the CARS website for details of how to book a place and the contact details for the Training Coordinator John O'Connell M0JOC <http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/training> and at training2026@g0mwt.org.uk

Morse Classes – a new online beginners course (via MS-Teams) starts on Wednesday 7th January – contact Andy Kersey G0IBN at morse2026@g0mwt.org.uk

Classes are on every Wednesday until 8th July

Practical Skills / Brickworks – the monthly club meeting programme alternates between talks and more practical events. Join us, get hands-on and have funs, or enter and win a prize in our constructors competition!

SK Magazines

One of the items left available are Colin G0TRMs magazines. If any interest please contact Andy G0IBN.



Others cover datacomms (BARTG), Model Engineering etc – but all will be disposed of shortly if no interest

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