



Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society Newsletter

May Meeting

Tue 5-May-2026, 7:30pm

Danbury Village Hall

How Low Can You Go

By Andy Tyler G1GKN

For our May meeting Andy Tyler G1GKN will tell us all about the Low Frequency world below the 160m amateur 'Top band'.

This is where we have the very different long wavelength regime of VLF and LF.

Whilst Broadcasters may be abandoning AM/LW/MW, this is where amateurs and professionals continue to operate and innovate.

Amateurs have allocations at 136 and 472 kHz, whilst for example many clocks use the 60kHz time signal,

...but there are all sorts of other things too....

For example...

- Pictured are the 19kHz VLF masts at Grimeton in Sweden
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grimeton_Radio_Station

...and who remembers the Rugby masts

All welcome - free raffle and refreshments.



CAR PARKING – take care to register your car in Danbury

Training - Contact John M0JOC re Intermediate / Full Courses

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Club Diary

Tue 5-May-2026	CARS Meeting – How Low Can You Go... - by Andy G1GKN	Danbury Village Hall
Tue 2-Jun-2026	CARS Meeting – Skills and Quiz Evening	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. Our Training page has the latest updates.

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

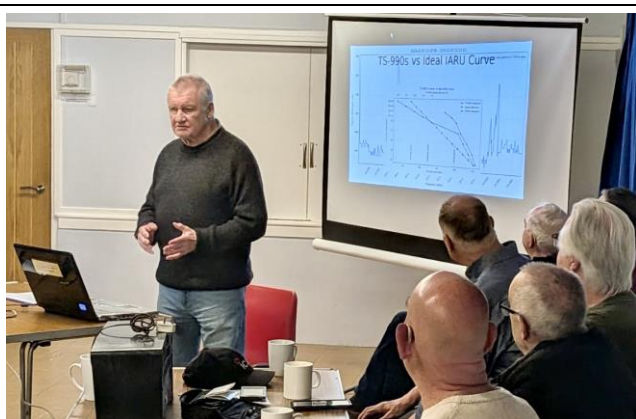
April Meeting: Construction Competition



We can never tell in advance, so we were pleased to have a high number of entries and attendance for this year's competition, chasing the cash prizes we had on offer.

As usual each entrant made a brief presentation on their creation, and then everyone was invited to fill in their scoring/preferences, which John M0JOC duly collated:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| • Richard van de Merwe 2E0VVY | Rack modules audio synth |
| • Andrew Kersey G0IBN | Matchbox FM receiver/headphones - best newcomer |
| • Alan Hanna M0IZW | GPS Yacht Speed Log |
| • Simon Wilton G7HCD | 3D printed AC power meter |
| • Bob Tokley G4MDB | Simple bits and pieces |
| • Norman Crampton M0FZW | Mag Loop Antenna - 1st place |
| • Andy Tyler G1GKN | 630m (472kHz) LF Beacon - 2nd place |
| • Gwyn Williams G4FKH | Band Scan software program - 3rd place |



Gwyn presenting his Software



Winner! – Norman with his Mag Loop



Andy G1GKN - LF Beacon



Newcomer – Andy G0IBN and MatchBox Radio

**1st Prize – Norman M0FZW****2nd Prize – Andy G1GKN****3rd Prize – Gwyn G4FKH****Newcomer – Andy G0IBN**

Training and Exam Update

The RSGB has published the question bank for Full level exams. So if you fancied an upgrade, but were always fearful, you can now try the new online tool that can create your own Mock Exams from it

Meanwhile John M0JOC has updated our training page and is interested in enquiries for 'Fastrack' courses that prepare you for any of the three exam levels which we can host at Danbury for face-to-face revision.

RSGB: <https://rsgb.services/public/exams/eqdb/>

CARS: www.g0mwt.org.uk/training

International Marconi Day

The calendar and weather were both very kind this year with IMD falling precisely on Marconi's birthday (25th April 1874), and a lovely sunshine all day too. CARS was grateful to BAE for permission to use the Marconi Research site in Great Baddow,

CARS had registered its GX0MWT club call as an IMD Award Station. After setting up around 10am, a fairly relaxed operation was led by Andy G0IBN on CW – assisted by some rewiring of the Morse key!

Murray had also brought the CARS SDR-IQ receiver and his Yaesu FTM400 for some local contacts. Whilst GB3DA was fairly quiet, the good propagation conditions resulted in plenty of European traffic via the GB3PO Ipswich repeater.

By mid-afternoon, other contests were making it harder on HF, so we packed up to enjoy the remains of the sunny day. Our thanks to the BAE team!



The operating hut in the foreground had an EFHW for HF and Diamond X30. The far end of the EFHW was held up by the Chain Home Low tower



IMD-2026: Andy G1GKN John G8DET, Norman, M0FZW, Andy G0IBN, Gwyn G4FKH, (photo by Murray G6JYB)



Andy G0IBN on HF CW



VHF via Ipswich to Europe

NOTE: CARS used to use Sandford Mill, but in Dec-2025 this was [closed to the public until further notice](#)

From Days Gone By...

CHELMSFORD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB29th December, 1960

Dear Member,

I am pleased to inform you that analysis of the questionnaire recently circulated has shown that there is sufficient support to justify conducting both R.A.E. and Morse classes.

Classes will be held weekly on Thursday evenings at 6.30 p.m., the R.A.E. lecture occupying the period 6.30 p.m. to approximately 8.30 p.m., followed by 30 minutes Morse practice.

At present, the only available accommodation for these classes is the Lecture Room, Building 720, Marconi Works, New Street, kindly made available to us by the Marconi Company. Because of security restrictions, only Marconi employees can be permitted to enter the New Street Works; however, since applications to date are all from Marconi employees, none will be disappointed.

The first class will be held on 5th January, 1961, and will be devoted entirely to the first R.A.E. lecture, the first Morse class commencing the following week, viz on the 12th January, 1961.

The importance of starting R.A.E. at the first lesson cannot be overstressed. Additionally, it is essential that those proposing to take the CW course, should memorise the Morse Code (alphabet only at this stage), since this is best accomplished by self-tuition. A recommended method of memorising the Code is given on Page 4 of "Learning Morse" by Margaret Mills (G3ACC), obtainable from R.S.G.B. Headquarters at a price of one shilling, plus postage.

For R.A.E. notes, members will be required to provide their own notebooks (100 leaf, quarto size, is recommended), plus a scrap book for Morse exercises.

It is hoped in the near future to extend R.A.E. facilities to all members, and to introduce supplementary Morse practice classes.

It only remains for me to wish you the Best of Luck!

R.D. May
(R.D. MAY)
Publicity Representative

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