



Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society

Science & Discovery Day - 27th Sep-2015

by Chris Chapman G0IPU

The day started bright and early on the 27th September. CARS were at Sandford Mill helping to promote their "[Science Discovery Day](#)". I had assembled all my equipment (apart from that bit you always forget...) the night before at home, ready to load up in the morning. Then a quick stop to get the 70' Hilomast trailer mast and we were on our way. Arriving at 8:30 ish to setup before the public came in, we quickly got the antenna (Diamond X500) up on the mast, that's when it hit me, the bit you forget, you know the radials / ground plane, all back home.

Fortunately I don't live too far away and got the missing part in around 30 minutes. Up went the event shelter next to the mast, next the mains power that was still in the ground from an event I did with the Scouts some 11 years previous, and it worked (unlike my extension lead, it was replaced).

By this time the public were on site and we just got the 2m station running. The Radio Controlled Cars were on charge and the [Morse Mouse](#) was ready to pounce. All we needed was a cup of coffee and all would be well in the outside encampment. Coffee was duly got and off we went on to 2m using the new Yaesu FT 7900 radio.

Later on Jim 2E0RMI joined us outside along with Kris 2E0SSX, both having a go on the 2m band with great success. Peter M0PSD joined us for a break from the Marconi Hut that was in use for HF SSB and CW contacts, Later on Andy popped out to see the 2M setup while some SSB contacts were made on HF.

After lunch I used one of the RC Cars to attract a crowd over to the event shelter from the picnic area (let the finish lunch first) and was duly mobbed by a group of young people. Back on 2m the activity was going strong, with stations from all round Essex calling. Andy G7TKK set up a SDR arrangement on a laptop pc to show the water fall display, always a good eye-catching display, and had quite a lot of interest in the setup from the public.

Inside the Marconi Hut were Peter M0PSD and Chris 2E0CUU; Andy G0IBN was on the CW Key along with Keith G3WGE and Oliver M0WAG were up and running on HF. Sharing the operating time with both SSB and CW operators for the day. Peter M0PSD was at the CW Keys stand for a while. Brian M6UHN popped in to have a go on HF and made his first HF contact other than on the radio course, well done Brian.

At the end of the day all was packed up and taken home after a very successful day. Thank you to everyone who took part in the event, Nick, the curator was very pleased with the overall show from CARS.

THE END