

# October Newsletter



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## Admin

1. Congratulations to John, 2EONNZ, and Ian, MOLZI, who were elected as Central and Deputy Area Controllers respectively
2. The Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) is now set for the 26<sup>th</sup> of October.
2. A Health & Safety Risk Assessment (RA) for COVID-19 has been completed, and a refresh of our other RAs is in draft. These will soon be published, with briefing sessions to follow
3. An overhaul of our call-out process has been completed (Section 3 of the Essex RAYNET Manual) and this will be circulated after the EGM, with training to follow. Thanks to Jenny and her sub-team for this re-write
4. We wish to use the RAYNET-UK free MS 365 system and adopt Microsoft Teams for our conference calls. To enable this to be as smooth as possible for all, the Management team and the Central Area team are our guinea pigs

## Training

1. Following the publication of the Essex RAYNET call-out process we are considering holding an exercise to test out the procedures and the role duties that members take on for a live incident. Watch this space for more information

## Events



*Tollesbury 18/10/20*

1. Spring tides did arrive in the Tendring District on the weekend and we were notified that we could be called out. However, the weather forecast indicated that there would be flooding but evacuation was unlikely; so we were stood down
2. Santa Fun Run is our next programmed event. We're in the process of getting a view on whether this can go ahead

## Engineering



1. The Stores has had a 'birthday', with cataloguing what's there, moving equipment into waterproof boxes, and writing up a photo guidance so that items can be easily located
2. Our members carried out a successful test of our remote repeaters, now configured to

work in cascade. This gives a much greater radio footprint across the county. The Engineering team is looking at potential sites in the north east, to fill a highlighted gap in our coverage.



3. Our professional APRS beacons are no longer stable enough to use on live events. We've had a very good quotation from the manufacturer to completely upgrade/replace key components – so we'll be shipping them off soon
4. Another batch of our spare GM660 mobile UHF radios has been sold, bringing in a valuable contribution to our funds. This month we've asked those that have loaned items to see if any are surplus to requirements. We'll follow this up once all replies are in
5. Great progress in being made on our donated trailer mast. Fabrication of parts completed and first coat of paint done. Once the next coat is on there maybe a call for a working party morning session to assemble all the remaining parts. Thanks to Ian and Vince for their continued efforts