

# September Newsletter



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## Admin

1. Andrew, MOONH, has had to stand down as Central Area Controller due to the pressure of work. The good news is Andrew is able to remain as a member and will fit in time as circumstances allow. In the meantime John, 2E0NNZ, has stepped up to be temporary Area Controller until elections can be held within the Central district.

2. From the Health & Safety Risk Assessment preparations undertaken for Saltmarsh, they will be used as the basis to refresh our generic guidance for Essex RAYNET and meet the needs of the current circumstances.

3. The Essex RAYNET Manual Section 2 (Engineering) is having a re-write, so look out soon for refreshed channel and frequency information.

## Events

1. Following the most recent government guidance the Saltmarsh Ultra event was cancelled on the 10<sup>th</sup> September. This is a real disappointment as this would have been our Big One and much preparation in Essex RAYNET had been undertaken.

## Training

1. A very successful Field Day was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> August. Lots of learning, and catching up socially – but COVID-19 compliant of course!



2. The North Area team ran a DMR webinar session for the whole membership at their monthly meeting. This was very well received, with lots of follow-up questions. We are looking to see if there is demand to run it again. If you would like to attend such a session then please reply to Jenny by the 18<sup>th</sup> September at: [jenny.wilson@raynet-uk.net](mailto:jenny.wilson@raynet-uk.net)

3. Over the coming weeks the Essex RAYNET call-out procedures will be reviewed and updated, and training sessions will follow. We are considering holding some call-out exercises to keep ourselves up-to-scratch.

## Engineering

1. The first batch of spare radio equipment has been sold, netting us a valuable contribution to our coffers. Building on the success, the next batch is being prepared

2. Refurbishment of the trailer mast is progressing well, with all replacement parts delivered and steelwork commissioned. The next phase will be drilling, welding, painting, and then assembly. Look out for the potential need for a working party to complete these activities



3. Much work has been put in by the Saltmarsh event team to derive solutions to meet the needs of the event organiser, the first aid team, and Rover Rescue. This included a drive-around coverage survey and trying out a new temporary repeater location.

4. Our installation at County Hall was upgraded this month with the installation of a switching unit and an SMS control module. We will be looking for your help to test the coverage of this repeater, and the footprint we can achieve across Essex when all of our remote repeaters are linked together.

