

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2025



Essex RAYNET



@ESSEXRAYNET



@ESSEXRAYNETUK

www.essexraynet.co.uk

CASCADE NET



- We hold 1 monthly net which will be on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 8pm via FM + LTE
- Wed 3rd Sept - Cascade Network via RF + Icom LTE Crosslink @ 8PM with G0IJN John, MONAS Neil or 2E0NNZ John as your Net Controllers**
- Reminders will be sent via WhatsApp/SMS in advance of the Net
- If you would like details on how to join in, please contact your Area Controllers

2025-2026 EVENTS DIARY



- Cycle for Life - Sun 7th Sept
- Harwich Half Marathon - Sun 7th Sept
- St Helena Midnight Walk - Sat 27th Sept
- Chelmsford Marathon - Sun 12th Oct
- Winter Training Day - **TBC Oct/Nov**
- Santa Fun Run - Sun 7th Dec
- Colchester Half Marathon - Sun 8th Mar 2026
- CTIM - Good Friday 3rd April 2026
- Walk for Life - Sun 10th May 2026
- Pier to Pier - **Sun TBC May 2026**
- Brightlingsea Carnival - Sat 20th June 2026
- Multi-Group Demo Day - **TBC June/July 2026**
- Dengie 999 Weekend - **TBC 1st-2nd August 2026**
- Clacton Carnival - Sat 8th August 2026
- Clacton Airshow - Thurs/Fri 27th-28th Aug 2026

ADMINISTRATION



- We have now launched our new Safeguarding & H&S Incident Reporting Forms, which will enable you to inform the Officers of Essex RAYNET, of anything of concern, so that it can be investigated if required and any relevant action taken to mitigate the risk/incident from re-occurring in the future
- This is part of a wider programme of compliance, in preparation for our move to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation & Charity, which will also see some additional policies introduced, as is standard across the Voluntary Sector in the modern society - further details will follow in the next few months
- We have recently renewed and updated our MOU with Essex 4x4 Response, to reflect our updated Digital Capabilities
- We have recently invested in additional First Aid + H&S equipment for use on Events/Deployment
- Now that we will soon be entering a lower volume of events season, progress on the CIO will be resuming - we will keep you posted!

TRAINING OFFICER



- We are delighted to announce that, 2E0PSN Gareth, is the new Training Officer for Essex RAYNET, following his co-option during July - he will oversee the introduction of a new Online Training Platform
- If you have any suggestions or topics you would like 2E0PSN Gareth to focus on, please send an email to gareth.james@raynet-uk.net or DM via WhatsApp

SUPPORTERS MEMBERSHIP

- We are now in a position to share the additional details of the Supporter Membership with you and how you can submit your applications
- A Waiver will currently be applied to all applications between August 2025 until such time that the Constitution is amended in 2026, which we anticipate will be around April-May
- Keep an eye on your inboxes for further details which will be circulated we anticipate by Fri 29th August
- Supporter Membership will only open to those who will be supporting a existing member FYI!

ST HELENA MIDNIGHT WALK



- Are you available on Saturday Evening on the 27th September? If so, would love to have you assist at the St Helena Midnight Walk in Colchester!
- We will be providing Safety Radio Communications to the Event Team, Marshalls and First Aid
- A great opportunity to help raise funds for this local charity and hospice, providing a vital service to the community, for those in need of help
- If you'd like to volunteer, please WhatsApp or email MOWRB Richard richard.brindley@raynet-uk.net

ENGINEERING



- We are pleased to announce that, thanks to the Martello Tower Group / GOMBA Tony, we now have our MB9HAU Crossband Repeater, installed at its new site in Colchester.
- MB9HAU Colchester, will help provide additional coverage into our wider Cascade Radio Network - with initial testing showing excellent results!
- We are making progress with our plans to renew the Antennas & Coax at our Maldon & Chelmsford Sites, which will see all Antennas replaced (as well as Coax at Maldon), to serve our APRS Digipeaters & Crossband Repeaters which link into the Cascade Network across Essex
- To further improve our resilience, we are also undertaking a upgrade process for our 12v Batteries at our Cascade Repeater sites, as well as future proofing with investment in new technologies such as Digital Voice

CLACTON CARNIVAL



- We helped provide Safety Radio Communications for the Marshalls & Road Closures, at the Clacton Carnival on Saturday 9th August
- A Team of 8 Operators, providing a rolling Lead & Tail Sweep vehicle, helped ensure the smooth progress of the Carnival along the route between Clacton Airstrip and Victoria Road
- Thanks to the generous donator's on the day, they helped raise £2881.55 for local charities and voluntary organisations in the Tendring area - a fantastic result!

73 2E0XTA - County Controller

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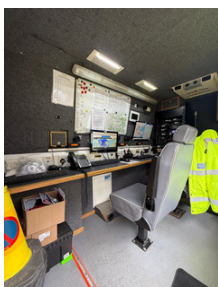
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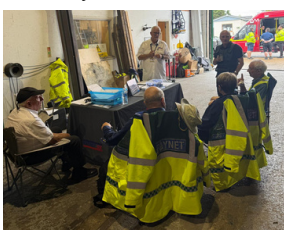
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SUMMER TRAINING DAY 2025



- We hosted our Summer Training Day on Sat 19th July, which saw members from Essex, Kent, Mid-Herts, East Suffolk & Forest Heath get together for a bit of a show & tell, plus the opportunity to learn new skills
- Kent & Mid-Herts RAYNET provided a demonstration of their Communication Vehicles & Technologies such as Starlink
- We demonstrated Icom Digital Voice + D-Star, as well as a Slim Jim build class
- We are aiming to host a even bigger multi-group event next year!



CLACTON AIRSHOW 2025



- We built and deployed a bespoke RF Digital Voice Communication Network, which would be resilient and independent of traditional Cellular based systems
- Our Network featured double redundancy and the ability to operate for extended duration, in the event of a power failure or a network outage
- Working alongside TDC & TDC Beach Patrol, Essex County Fire & Rescue, Essex Police, St John Ambulance, East of England Ambulance Service and Regency Security, to keep all visitors and staff safe
- As usual, Clacton Airshow is a very popular event with the visiting public, with some 250,000 people typically attending the event and of course, watching the famous Red Arrows perform their display routine
- The weather both days was favourable, with only a couple of flights on Day 1 being cancelled due to winds, otherwise a bumper flight display across the 2 days
- We once again utilised Icom digital voice technology, which provided crystal clear communications, whilst being very efficient on battery power - handy when you could be on location for 14-18 hours!
- We also used Icom D-Star during the event, as a means to explore what additional capabilities it can bring to the group, with very encouraging results so far - more testing and investment planned for the future
- Thank you to Essex Radio Hire for the loan of a bespoke Icom Digital Crossband Repeater & to Icom UK for their ongoing assistance with our Digital project
- Special thanks to G00ZS Iain, M7JPC Jan, G1BYY Howard & Jan, G7MTQ Stu and G7UZS Alex from neighbouring groups for your assistance with this event - it simply wouldn't be possible without your continued support!
- And finally, a huge thank you to every member of Essex RAYNET who volunteered their time to assist at this massive event which, all helps count towards the membership commitment and help build your skills, ready for the next deployment!
- Airshow Trivia - over 365 hours volunteered across 48 hours!

