

JULY NEWSLETTER 2026



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CASCADE NET



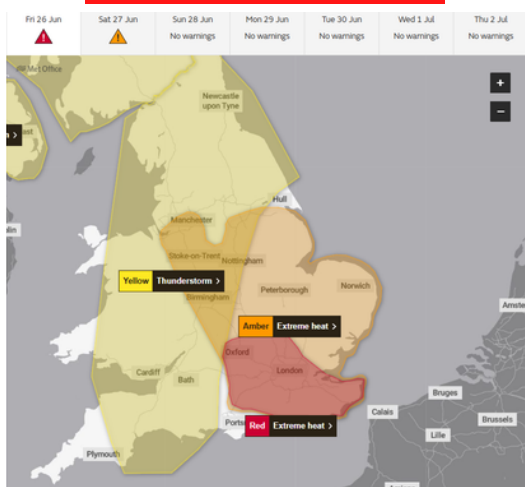
- We hold 1 monthly net which will be on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 8pm via FM + LTE
- Wed 5th August - Cascade Network via RF + Icom LTE Crosslink @ 8PM with GOIJN John or MONAS Neil or as your Net Controllers**
- Reminders will be sent via WhatsApp/SMS in advance of the Net
- If you would like details on how to join in, please contact your Area Co-Ordinators

2026 EVENTS DIARY



- Dengie 999 Weekend - Sat/Sun 1st-2nd August
- Clacton Carnival - Saturday 8th August
- Clacton Airshow - Thursday/Friday 27th-28th Aug
- CGCC Autumn Fun Run - Sun 6th Sept
- St Helena Midnight Walk - Saturday 12th Sept
- Cycle for Life - Sunday 20th Sept 2026
- Harwich Half Marathon - Sunday 4th October
- Chelmsford Marathon - Sunday 11th October
- Santa Fun Run - Sunday 6th December
- Hadleigh 10k - Sunday 28th February 2027
- Colchester Half Marathon - Sun 14th March 2027
- Churches Together In Maldon - Fri 26th March 2027

OPERATION AGA



- The recent Heatwave and series of Amber + Red Extreme Heat Weather Warnings, saw the Organisation move to 'Alert' Status of readiness, under Operation Aga.
- This involved Members taking additional steps of preparedness and readiness, over business as usual, such as fresh recharging of batteries, monitoring of systems and reducing power consumption on the national grid where possible.
- This gave Members a chance to also refresh their awareness of the Callout Procedure Process
- Thankfully, the period of warnings which covered Essex, passed without incident and no further deployment needs were requested
- If any members have feedback on Operation Aga, please contact your Area Coordinator.

CIO UPDATE



- Essex RAYNET is pleased to announce that, as of the 6th May 2026, we have Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Charity) status
- The Team of 6x Trustees, which consists of all the Ex-Officio Officers of Essex RAYNET and MONAS Neil & G8UDD Steve, will help run the Charity alongside Essex RAYNET Management Team
- As such, there are a number of elements which need to transfer/merge across from Essex RAYNET to the CIO - we are currently in the process of organising the relevant paperwork such as MoUs between the two entities
- An application is currently with HMRC, to register for Gift-Aid - meaning for every £1 donated, we can be gifted an additional 25p!
- The CIO is also exploring options into Fundraising and Grants, for future projects and aspirations
- You can contact the Trustees via email: trustees@essexraynet.co.uk

KIRTON RADIO RALLY



- We attended the East Suffolk Wireless Revival, Radio Rally, which is held at Kirton every year on Sunday 21st June
- The primary aim was to raise awareness of RAYNET, working alongside East Suffolk RAYNET, whilst also helping to raise funds through the sales of equipment
- The Rally was really successful for us, helping to raise over £800+, thanks to our ability to process card payments, as well as cash
- This means that over £400 was raised for the Widow, Coral of Silent Key G1SNU Derek, who was a member for Essex RAYNET for many years and had donated the equipment to us to sell on at the Rally
- We intend to return in 2027!

BRIGHTLINGSEA CARNIVAL 2026



- We helped provide resilient emergency radio communications, to support the Brightlingsea Carnival procession, on Saturday 20th June
- Our radio network helped ensure communications between the various rolling road-closures, sweep vehicle, event coordinator and RAYNET Control
- We deployed Icom Digital Voice and APRS tracking technology, using a Portable Mast deployed on-site, for route wide coverage
- Collections are still being counted but hopefully a bumper year!
- A team of 12 Operators deployed to support the event, which helps to raise money for local charities within the Tendring area, as part of a wider day packed full of activities at the carnival event site - well done all who volunteered!

73 M9XTA - County Coordinator



- Don't forget to keep your SarSYS status up-to-date - this is especially important if your going on Holiday, going into Hospital or will be away from Essex county for more than 24 hours - it takes seconds to do and will save time for our Duty Officers chasing you whilst your Off-Duty
- All Users will need to use their @essexraynet.co.uk email to login!
- If you have any problems, WhatsApp or email steve.james@essexraynet.co.uk

TRAINING UPDATE



- We did have an goal to host another Multi-Group Training Day, following the success of the 2025 event - however due to other commitments, we won't be in a position to host one before September at the earliest - so this will likely be postponed until 2027
- G8UDD Steve is currently reviewing and updating Training Material, ready for delivery remotely during 2026.

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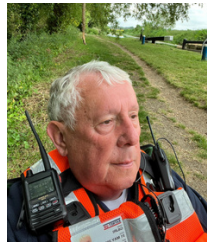


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WALK FOR LIFE 2026



- We helped support Farleigh Hospice by providing Safety Radio Communications, to the marshalls, first aid teams and event support staff, on Sunday 10th May 2026, between Heybridge Basin in Maldon and E2V Chelmsford.
- To help provide the coverage needed across this mixture of urban and sub-urban terrain, we deployed our dual mode Digital Inband Voice Repeater, Crossband Repeater and local Repeater, MB9HAT Chelmsford to ensure we had resilient communications across the course.
- We also utilised APRS (Automated Packet Reporting System) to keep a track of the Sweep and Operator locations during the event - we did so using our own portable Digipeater, MB9DAC and fixed APRS Digipeaters - MB7UCH Chelmsford, MB7UMN Maldon.
- The annual event which has become a popular favourite, which saw over 700 participants this year take part and helped to raise over £70,000 for the charity.
- We worked alongside Essex 4x4 Response, Essex Community First Aid and Farleigh Hospice, to help ensure the safety of marshalls, walkers, as they proceeded to navigate the pathways alongside the River Chelmer.
- We also trialled our new 'in-house developed' Net Control Software during the event - more on this later this year!
- The event was a real success, with lots of positive feedback from the event organiser and the walkers - well done all!

PIER TO PIER 2026



- We assisted St Helena Hospice, providing Safety Radio Communications, for the annual Pier to Pier sponsored walk, between Clacton - Walton in Tendring
- To help provide the coverage needed across this mixed terrain, we deployed our dual mode Digital Inband Voice Repeater, Crossband Repeater and local Repeater, MB9HAV Clacton to ensure we had resilient communications across the route.
- We also utilised APRS (Automated Packet Reporting System) to keep a track of the Sweep and Operator locations during the event - we did so using our own portable Digipeaters and MB7UCL kindly provided by the Martello Tower Group - thank you!
- The annual event which has become a popular favourite, which saw over 790 participants this year take part and helped to raise over £82,000 for the charity.
- We worked alongside St John Ambulance and the Event Marshalls, to keep everyone safe.
- Our resilient radio communications network, proved to be essential, whilst dealing with a medical incident which was in an area of no phone signal along the promenade - we helped ensure the Paramedics got to the correct location promptly, within 7mins of the 999 call from RAYNET Control.
- Thank you to all the Operators who volunteered their time to make this event a real success!

