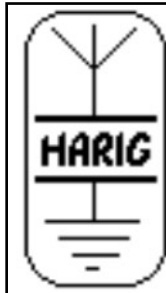


# CROSSTALK

**Winter 2024/2025**



## Club Meeting Diary 2024/2025

November 13th	The D-Day Landings - By Graeme M0NAC
December 11th	Annual General Meeting and Christmas Social
January 8th	Why I Like My Rig - By Members
February 12th	Ships AIS & Marine Band Listening - Kevan 2E0WMG

## HARIG's Short Contest Call M4U Renewed for Five Years.

Ofcom have granted Jonathan the NoV for M4U until the end of December 2029. Jonathan initially thought we had plenty of contest points to qualify from the last five years but upon looking closely to construct the application it was a close run thing and we needed every contest we used it in, both the ones Kevin did from his QTH plus those from Jonathan's QTH as a single op, as well as the group one from the new shack in the IOTA contest this July.

## Why I Like My Rig...



Why I like my rig, is the title of the club meeting in January. The idea is for members to tell us all about their favourite rig and why they like it. You can also tell us what features you think are missing, or any tiny niggles it may have. Most of us have acquired more than one rig, so perhaps compare and say what would make a perfect rig for you. By all means you can bring along a rig or two for us to see in the flesh if you like, but if your old boat anchor weighs a ton you can send me some photos in advance by email and we can display them the screen with the projector.

Photos can be sent to [kevan2e0wmg@live.co.uk](mailto:kevan2e0wmg@live.co.uk)

# Club News...

As of January 2025 a charge of £9 per hour is being introduced for room hire at the Pavilion. Previously there was no cost for this and we only paid nominal affiliation fees as individuals. The charge is being introduced to all hirers due to rising costs. All attendees must now sign a signing in book provided by the venue. The meeting room has been booked for every second Wednesday next year for our regular meetings. We have been asked to note the room is available as a priority to local emergency response services in the case of an emergency. Contact details have been provided for Kevin, Jonathan and Kevan should the need arise for us to be contacted at short notice so we can inform members as quickly as possible to hopefully prevent a wasted journey. We are looking to set up a club WhatsApp group to be used if this ever happens as it is probably the easiest and quickest method.

At the committee meeting in July it was agreed to simplify the membership fee structure. From the new club year membership will be £20 across the board, with members encouraged to pay electronically. An email with the bank details will be sent out prior to subscriptions becoming due. The aim is to simplify things for the treasurer and members by reducing cash on hand for Bob as treasurer and negating the need for Bob or members to fiddle about with 50 pence pieces at each meeting. Raffle tickets for attendees will still be given out by Bob so the Christmas Raffle will continue as it does now.

It is unclear, at the time of writing if an individual affiliation fee is to be charged by the Pavilion, however if this is the case this will be paid by the club from members yearly subscriptions. The new membership fee structure will be kept under review to make sure it is sustainable for the future and members are happy with the changes.

Formal notice of the AGM is given on page four of this edition of Crosstalk. I hope to see you all soon at our regular meeting and of course the AGM.

73 for now...

Kevan 2E0WMG. HARIG Secretary and Crosstalk Editor...



## Fred G4HWK - Silent Key...

In July, our Chairman, Kevin M0JVC received an email informing him our oldest member Fred, G4HWK had passed away peacefully with his family in East London. He had moved to be with his family from his previous home in Wix. Fred was a CW operator and was active until the end. Jonathan G0DJV said "Fred was an excellent CW operator" and could often be heard on HF, including giving away points during contests. Fred is pictured receiving the TAG Trophy from Kevin a couple of years ago. RIP Fred...

## Lighthouse Weekend 2024

In August the club once again took part in International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend from the Harwich high light using the special call sign GB4HLH.



This year, for the first time we used an Icom IC-7300 which worked well, with those who operated reporting less local noise...

A total of 124 stations were worked from 13 different countries, mostly on 40m SSB where most activity could be found, but with some QSOs on 15m. Our thanks go to the Harwich Society for their hospitality. A write up of our activities was included in their recent newsletter, and we look forward to taking part in 2025. Jonathan G0DVJ is pictured spotting GB4HLH on the cluster to generate on air activity

# Congratulations Tim, M7TPZ

Tim Poulter, who recently attended a club meeting at the Pavilion has been in touch to confirm he has successfully passed the foundation exam after studying with Essex Ham. Tim's new call sign is M7TPZ. Well done Tim, and also credit should go to Essex Ham who do a great job providing training to grow our hobby. We hope to see Tim at club meetings in future.

## Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Harwich Amateur Radio Interest Group will take place commencing at 8pm on Wednesday 11th December 2025. The meeting will be held at the Park Pavilion Barrack Land Harwich CO12 3NS The purpose of the AGM is to elect the following committee members.

- 1) Chairman
- 2) Secretary
- 3) Treasurer
- 4) Ordinary member #1
- 5) Ordinary member #2
- 6) Ordinary member #3

Nominations can be made for each committee post which must be proposed and seconded. If more than one nomination is made a vote by show of hands will take place. All sitting committee members have expressed their willingness to seek nomination for a further year.

### February Meeting - Ships AIS and Marine Band Listening.

Part one of the talk by Kevan 2E0WMG will cover Ships Automatic Identification System, a navigational safety system used by vessels at sea. What it is, how it works, and how to receive and decode these transmissions for yourself. Part two of the talk will tell you all you need to know so you can also listen in to the marine VHF bands. With an emphasis on our local waters it will also cover equipment including aerials, homemade, commercial and even yagi beams for AIS and marine band. The chances are you already have a rig that has VHF marine band receive but if you want to know where to find the most activity and get some tips on local places to watch marine traffic and listen in on the action this is the talk for you...

**Crosstalk Editor & HARIG Secretary: Kevan 2E0WMG. HARIG was founded in 1990 and is affiliated to the RSGB. Club Callsign: GORGH (M4U) in Contests. Meetings take place on the second Wednesday each month at the Park Pavilion Barrack Lane Harwich CO12 3NS starting formally at 8pm. Visitors always welcome. Club Website: [www.harig.org.uk](http://www.harig.org.uk)**