

Thank you for attending the CARS Foundation Course. Here is some handy information to help you on your journey into amateur radio.



How to get your callsign:

You should be able to get your callsign and licence approximately 6 working days after passing your exam.

You need to register on the Ofcom website and use your five-digit Candidate Number to get your callsign. Go to services.ofcom.org.uk

For a step-by-step guide, go to: www.essexham.co.uk/getcallsign

A screenshot of the Ofcom Online Licensing Services website. The page is titled 'Registration for new individual users' and contains a registration form with fields for 'First name', 'Middle name', 'Surname', 'Contact email address', and 'Contact telephone number'. There are also checkboxes for 'I am an individual user' and 'I am a company or organisation user'. The Ofcom logo is visible at the top left of the page.

Joining CARS:

The Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society holds regular meetings in Chelmsford (the first Tuesday of the month), is active at several field days throughout the year, and offers a monthly newsletter to members. Candidates on CARS training courses qualify for free membership (for up to one year). If you would like to find out more, go to www.g0mwt.org.uk

There are other plenty of other clubs in the area - See www.essexham.co.uk/clubs for a full list of local clubs.

Next Steps in Amateur Radio:

Website: The website Essex Ham is run by one of the CARS trainers, Pete M0PSX. This site contains lots of pages of information on how to get started in the hobby, including help with programming local repeaters, guides on setting up QRZ and eQSL, upcoming club events, and help with EchoLink & data modes. There is also a forum for questions. www.essexham.co.uk



Monday Night Net: Essex Ham also runs a weekly 'net'. This normally takes place on Monday night at 8pm on the GB3DA Danbury repeater. (Until you get your callsign, you can listen on 145.725MHz). It's a great place to chat with others who have just got their licence. Detail at www.essexham.net

Skills Sessions: CARS runs a series of Amateur Radio Skills workshops on a Monday night – the perfect place to ask questions, meet others and try out something new. Details at www.hamskills.co.uk

Handy Amateur Radio Websites:

www.rsgb.org - The Radio Society of Great Britain. Information on all aspects of amateur radio, plus free help and advice. Go here for the latest amateur radio band plans, and details of local clubs.

www.qrz.com – The online directory of amateur radio callsigns.

www.essexrepeatergroup.org.uk - The Essex Repeater Group's website.

www.southgatearc.org – For the latest amateur radio news.

www.ukrepeater.net - A list of all the active repeaters in the UK.

www.echolink.org/logins.jsp - A list of all the active worldwide Echolink connections.

www.wsplc.com - Hockley-based supplier of amateur radio equipment.