

While some clubs are still only meeting online and others are tentatively starting back at their Club premises, Acorns has been out and about with two field days in April and others planned for the later in the year.



## A First for Acorns

On the 9<sup>th</sup> April, John G4LTH, Stella G0EKP and Eddie G0BKL operated "Airfields on the Air" from Orsett Golf Club and using 20W on 40m and 2m, 53 contacts were made. An impressive contact was with a Belgian portable station using SSB on just 500mW. This was the first time this location had been used and we are grateful to the Golf Club Committee for giving us permission to operate from their venue. We were positioned overlooking the first fairway, thought to be the site of the WW1 runway. During that conflict aeroplanes were dispersed to outlying fields, like Orsett, to improve the chance of being closer to the enemy. The best DX, ironically, was to West Germany.

## GB1EWT Report

On the 18<sup>th</sup> April the Club operated from Essex Wildlife Trust, Mucking Wharf Road, Stanford-le-Hope SS17 0RN for "World Amateur Radio Day". The day was bright and sunny and with many Acorns members only having gathered once in the last couple of years because of COVID, so it was good to catch up. Peter M6RFW experimented with FT8 for a while, but most contacts were made on 40m once again running 20W, John and Stella made a respectable 20 contacts despite the fact that several contests were ongoing. Our presence, with a banner, alerted visitors to the fun and education that can be had with Amateur Radio.



## All change at the top

Our AGM was held in March. After completing his tenure as Chair (and a few more years on top to get us through COVID), Nick G4HCK (photo) stood down. Also standing down was the Club Secretary, Iain G4JMM. A major "Thank you" to you both. A new committee is now in place: Chair: Eddie G0BKL, Sebastian 2EØFZS as Secretary and Simon M1GGY Treasurer.



Eddie said,

*"Do keep an eye on the club website as the diary page is a good place to see all that is going on. Our next meeting on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> over Zoom, will be dedicated to planning what we get involved over the summer and beyond. The Zoom meetings, introduced by my predecessor, have been very successful allowing for a variety of speakers from the safety and comfort of our own homes. To make up for not having physical meetings I suggest now is the right time for a few social gatherings to be arranged, such as a group meal somewhere or a pop up operating day. I look forward to meeting you and hearing your suggestions".*