

## West Thurrock Family Fun Day

Although the weather stayed dry, the event was a bit of a washout with very little activity on VHF and low visitor numbers. Several youngsters and parents tried their hand at morse code and the local councillor even participated. After a contact earlier Gary M5YRG and Jo M0JOZ visited and set up in the opposite corner of the field. Sadly the burger van cancelled so no comfort food on the day.



## Small Bites

On 13th August we held another coffee afternoon at EWT, the five members that attended had a pleasant couple of hours chatting over a coffee.

For those that are interested in data modes there is a new kid on the block. VarAC is a new mode for conversational data contacts. Being fully connected like the AMTOR of old it will continue to send data until it is received. See the RSGB@8 video for more info [www.youtube.com/watch?v=SC0UxNG2itE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SC0UxNG2itE)



## Bring Out The Big Guns

On Saturday 6th Sept. I took a trip to Meopham in Kent to visit the Invicta Contest Group who were participating in the RSGB 144Mhz trophy contest, as I was interested in seeing a full QRO contest station. They were running 300W and a pair of 6 element yagis with a pair of 4 element yagis for more local contacts. The longer yagis gave the station an eirp in the range of 7kW.

The following morning I had a tune around 2m but could only hear about 10 stations, although the Invicta station was only 9 miles away, I did not hear them even though I was hearing French stations. de G0BKL

## Upcoming Events

### High House Farm—Heritage Open Day—GB4HHF

This event will take place at Vellacott Close, Purfleet RM19 1RJ on 17th September, we intend running VHF and HF FT8 with hopefully a remote HF SSB station. The event is open to the general public from 10am-5pm and is themed Astounding Inventions.

### Essex Wildlife Trust—Mucking

Confirmed for 8th October we will be operating from Essex WT, we have access to the indoor area so VHF, HF and full display is planned.

