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Issue 116

NKRS Newsletter

Our next meeting **18th April 2017** will be at the usual location. The Pop In Parlour (Rendezvous), Graham Road, Bexleyheath. (Opposite Asda). Doors open at 20.00.

Date	Event	
18 April 2017	CW Practice	Bring your own head phones (3.5mm Jack)
2nd May 2017	radio/Natter Night	VHF SSB Accumulative
16 May 2017	Web Page Design	An introduction using Word Press
30 May 2017 ++	5th Tuesday	Robin Hood and Little John Bexleyheath
6 June 2017	radio/Natter Night	VHF SSB Accumulative
++ Denotes that this is not a normal club night		



Easter Edition so happy Easter to you all.



I would have sent a picture of some Easter eggs but they have already hatched.

The next meeting is CW practice and please bring your own headphones with a 3.5 mm jack.



They must be avin a larf

Please read on.

Many of you who receive this newsletter travel from stations in the South East London area and have suffered the disruptions caused by the upgrading of London Bridge station and the surrounding rail infrastructure. What you did not expect is a worse service to follow the completion of the work.

In short the plan is to terminate all services on the north Kent between Dartford, Charlton, Greenwich and Bexleyheath lines at Cannon Street only, effectively cutting all Southeastern services to Charing Cross & Victoria in order to "provide a better service".

See

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/190894>

The consultation document can be found at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/604904/south-eastern-rail-franchise-public-consultation.pdf

I would request and suggest that you all sign the petition to try to stop plans to cut Southeastern services to Charing Cross & Victoria.

The petition can be found at

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/190894/signatures/new>

Remember once we lose services we rarely ever get them back.

Radioshack (USA) in trouble again

The logo for Radio Shack, featuring the words "Radio Shack" in a bold, white, sans-serif font on a black background. The letter "S" in "Shack" is stylized with a small flame-like shape above it.

This article applies only to a company of that name in the USA and has no connection with any company trading under that or a similar name in the UK.

In the UK they traded as Tandy (see below for where the name originated), opening around 1973 in high streets around the country serving the needs of the electronic enthusiast. I am not sure when they all disappeared.

In the USA "Radio Shack" started in 1921 as a company which wanted to provide equipment for the emerging field of amateur radio. The brothers who started it opened a one-store retail and mail-order operation.

They issued their first catalogue in 1939 as it entered the high fidelity music market. In 1954, Radio Shack began selling its own private-label products under the brand name Realist, changing the brand name to Realistic after being sued by Stereo Realist. After expanding to nine stores plus an extensive mail-order business, the company fell on hard times in the 1960s. Radio Shack was essentially bankrupt, but Charles D. Tandy saw the potential of Radio Shack and retail consumer electronics and bought the company.

The Tandy Corporation, (founded in 1919) was an American family-owned leather goods company based in Fort Worth, Texas. They had acquired a number of craft retail companies, including RadioShack in 1963 and In 2000, the Tandy Corporation name was dropped (apart from its use in the UK) and they became the RadioShack Corporation.

The company once offered a wide range of amateur radio equipment (some I believe of their own manufacture and some rebadged) along with components, and home entertainment electronics.

In 1977 Radio Shack introduced the TRS-80, one of the first mass-produced personal computers and my company was initially run on TRS 80,s using software written in house using basic.

In 2015 financial difficulties hit them again and many of their stores were closed and the surviving ones were acquired by General Wireless Inc.

In March this year again they filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy which allows them to continue trading under supervision of the court where there is a hope that perhaps some or all of their debts will be paid. At the moment the future of its existing 1,500 stores and some 5,900 workers is in jeopardy.

Does this matter to us in the UK ? Perhaps not but it is sad to see the closure of yet another supplier to the hobby. Although I have not used them for a long time during my visits to the USA I wish them good luck with their survival.

Chapter 11 is a chapter of Title 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code, which permits reorganization under the bankruptcy laws of the United States. Chapter 11 bankruptcy is available to every business, whether organized as a corporation, partnership or sole proprietorship, and to individuals, although it is most prominently used by corporate entities. In contrast, Chapter 7 governs the process of a liquidation bankruptcy, while Chapter 13 provides a reorganization process for the majority of private individuals.

World Amateur Radio Day (WARD) Tuesday, April 18,

This event marks the 92nd anniversary of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). Radio amateurs around the world will take to the airwaves to celebrate the day in 1925 that the IARU was formed in Paris. "Celebrating Amateur Radio's Contribution to Society" is the WARD theme.

Amateur Radio experimenters were the first to discover that the shortwave spectrum supported worldwide propagation. To prevent Amateur Radio being sidelined in the use of radio the a meeting in Paris (which included Hiram Percy Maxim the founder of the ARRL see note below) in 1925 created the IAEU.

Originally formed of 25 countries the IARU now includes 160 member societies in in 3 regions. IARU Region 1 includes Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and Northern Asia. Region 2 covers the Americas, and Region 3 is comprised of Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific island nations, and most of Asia.

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) also recognises the IARU as representing the interests of Amateur Radio.

Note

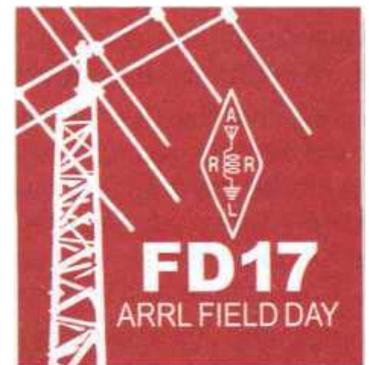
Hiram Percy Maxim was the son of Sir Hiram Stevens Maxim (5 February 1840 – 24 November 1916) who was an American-born British inventor who moved from the United States to the United Kingdom at the age of 41. He was the inventor of the Maxim Gun and held patents on diverse mechanical devices such as a mousetrap, hair-curling irons, and steam pumps. He experimented with powered flight, but his large aircraft designs were never successful.

2017 ARRL Field Day

The largest on-air Amateur Radio event in the world (so it is said !)
Will take place on June 24 and 25, 2017.

The event runs from 18.00 UTC Saturday, June 24
through to 17.59 UTC Sunday, June 25.

For more information on this event see
<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>



A question for the aviation experts

I saw this parked at Damon's Hall airfield on Easter Sunday.

Does anyone recognise what type of aircraft it is

If so please email me
nkrs@crystaldave.com

Easter Events



The tall ships come to London

Above the ships moored at Greenwich and Woolwich

Below a panorama of tall ships at Woolwich



Classic Car meet in Lower Marsh Street London

The vehicles on the left and right hold a special significance to me.



The tall ships come to London

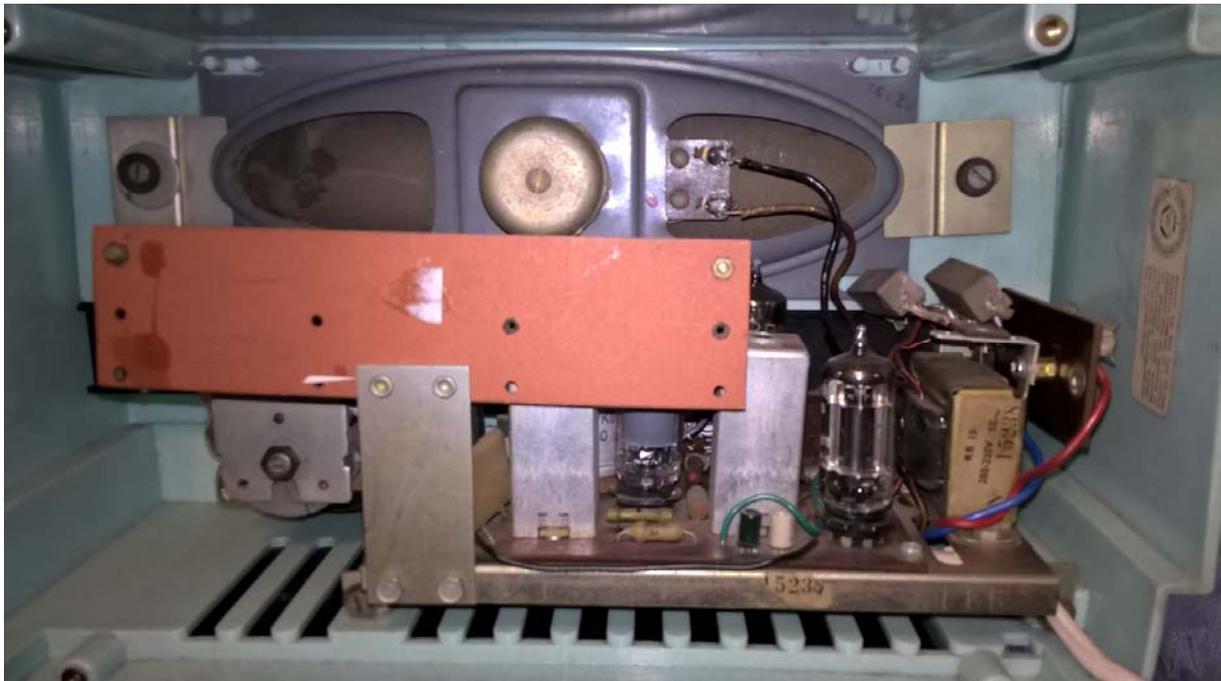
Wireless of the Month by Peter Martin

Wireless of the month, features the KB Gavotte RB10, it is a two band superhet, AC/DC Receiver covering Medium and long wavebands, It was Manufactured at the Foots Cray works in 1960 and sold for £13. It contains the standard valve set 12BE6, 6BJ6 12AT6 and 19AQ5, the chassis comprises of metal work and a printed circuit.

It is a very compact set, measuring 300mm, 167mm, 117mm. And is housed in a plastic cabinet. Because of its very compact size, Heat was a major factor in its design. As with many plastic type cabinets, heat from mains dropper resistors would cause cracks to appear and make the plastic very brittle over time. However this was overcome by eliminating the use of high wattage resistors, reducing the power consumption down to only 25 Watts. The circuit being unusual in the fact that the heaters are in series with the HT line. When the set is first powered up, the load on the HT line is enough to just get the heaters to start, this is enough to get the valves to conduct, and as a result draw a little more current on the HT line as the valves to reach full emission.



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Cambridge Repeater Group Rally 30th April 2017

Will be held at

Foxton Village Hall, Hardman Road, Foxton, Cambridge, CB22 6RN.
Entry £2. Open 09:30/07:30 traders. Free on-site parking. Trade. B&B.
Car boot sale. RSGB books. Catering.

Details: Lawrence, M0LCM, 07941-972724, rally2017@cambridgerepeaters.net

Web:<http://www.cambridgerepeaters.net>

West London Radio & Electronics Show (Kempton Rally) 30 April 2017

Kempton Park Racecourse, Staines Road East,
Sunbury on Thames, TW16 5AQ.
Open 10:00/09:50. Free parking. Talk in. Trade. B&B. SIGs.
Lectures.
Raffle. On-site catering.

Details: Paul, M0CJX, 0845-165-0351, info@radiofairs.co.uk
<http://www.radiofairs.co.uk>

That's all for this issue I hope you had a good Easter
Dave