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Issue 137

NKRS Newsletter

Our next meeting **3rd April 2016** will be at the usual location. The Pop In Parlour (Rendezvous), Graham Road, Bexleyheath. (Opposite Asda). Doors open at 20.00.

Date	Event
April 3	Natter Night
April 17	Talk on Florida by Dave G4YIB
May 1	Natter Night and Talk on Mobile Installation
May 15	Barometers by Stephen Osborn
June 5	Natter Night
June 19	Rig Talk by Ian
June 26	Summer DF Hunt Non club night
July 3	Natter Night
July 17	TBA
August 7	Natter Night /ILLW planning
August 18	ILLW (International lighthouses and lightships weekend)
August 21	Musical Appreciation Night
September 4	Natter Night
September 18	J39 Steam Engine refurbishment Stephen Osborn

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The Last Meeting

Firstly an apology.

I listed Andy Fribbens G8MLQ (shown right) as secretary when as you all know Stephen G8JZT is our secretary and Andy is our treasurer so please accept my apologies for this error



I thought the meeting went very well and I certainly learnt a lot of good things about our fellow committee members and I hope that the rest of the members felt the same.

It is always interesting to find that sometimes people you have known for a long time have histories that you are unaware of.

The forum after the meeting raised a couple of interesting items that the committee will be looking into.

The next meeting

The next meeting will be a natter night with a radio on the air.

RSGB AGM and Vote for Directors

Please note that the 91st Annual General Meeting of the Radio Society of Great Britain will be held on Saturday, 21 April 2018 at the Jurys Inn Hotel, 245 Broad Street, Birmingham commencing at 12 noon more details from-

<http://rsqb.org/main/about-us/agm/>

One of the important aspects of the AGM is the vote detailed below and it is important that members cast their vote which can be done now.

Resolution 4: To elect two from Mark Jones G0MGX, James Preece M0JFP, Michael Senior G4EFO, and Simone Joanne Wilson M0BOX as Directors of the RSGB to serve on the Board. (You can read the personal statements online (from the above link) or on page 22 of April 2018 RadCom)

You will need your membership number to participate which can be found on every RadCom wrapper if you don't already know it.

Walford Electronics From Tony G4WIF

Members might like to know about a free ham radio magazine that can be had for the asking. "Walford Electronics" have been in the radio kits business for a very long time and the owner, Tim Walford is the editor of "Hot Iron".

This newsletter is quite technical with no adverts (other than perhaps one or two from Tim). Read about it here www.walfords.net/ordering.htm And simply send Tim an email (electronics@walfords.net) to be added to the distribution list. It is sent as an email attachment in the widely used Adobe PDF format.

Kind regards
Tony G4WIF

The new GB3NK



This will be the new GB3NK.

Donated by G8DOG and currently being commissioned by Phil G4EGU this is a commercial programmable base station completer with CTCSS and all the other bits and pieces. I am not sure when it will go into service but it will be ready to replace the existing Pye base station should a breakdown occur

Below is a brief listing of the specifications

Rated power 25W
Channel spacing 12.5kHz, 20kHz, 25kHz, 30kHz
No. of channels 128 channels serial programmable
Power supply requirements 13.8V/240V AC or 110V AC
Dimensions (H x W x D) 89 x 482 x 322mm
Weight 18lb (8.55kg)
Current consumption Transmit: 25W 5A
Standby: 150mA
Standby: 350mA
Operating temperature -30°C to 60°C
Audio response Flat pre-emphasis/de-emphasis (6dB/octave)

Band spread 5MHz (UHF),
FM hum and noise 55dB (25kHz) 50db (12.5kHz) 55dB (25kHz) 50db (12.5kHz)
Max deviation 5kHz
Conducted spurious emissions +36dBm to 1GHz
Audio line distortion 2% max 2% max
Audio output +10dB @ 600ohms
Spurious response rejection 100dB
Selectivity intermodulation Selectivity: 90dB
Intermodulation: 85dB

Available in a Pound shop



I recently visited a pound shop in welling and bought the item shown above.

A power bank may not be an essential purchase for everyone but because I have a phone with an ailing battery (curse on the manufacturers for not making it replaceable) it is essential to me for when I am out and about all day (which I very often am).

However I think they are a useful addition to anyone's "technical support" collection. If you are operating in a remote location or away from your charger for a long time and have need to use your phone only to find the battery flat then they can get you out of trouble,

They do have another use, we have seen equipment demonstrated at the club by Tony G4WIF where he has used such units for a power supply.

In summary I think for a pound they are good value for money.

Radio Caroline

As many of you are aware Radio Caroline started transmissions using the reserve 648 kHz mast in November 2017. It appears that they are operating from Orford Ness which has been used in the past by the BBC (and others such as the US military)

The following link gives interesting details of the antenna system that they are using and the site contains much other interesting information.

<http://tx.mb21.co.uk/gallery/gallerypage.php?txid=1654&pageid=3360>

Thanks to Phil G4EGU for providing the link.



Sunrise Radio antenna near Southall

140 Years of Recorded Sound

I recently visited the above free exhibition at the British Library.

It was not a huge presentation but it covered the significance of sound since the phonograph was invented in 1877 and how it affected our lives. Also how radio transformed society in the 20th century and how the way we listen has changed as new technologies have emerged and old ones become obsolete.

There are listening booths to hear an eclectic mix of sounds from the archive including many rare and unpublished recordings and you can see a signed disc of James Joyce's reading of Ulysses alongside a selection of playable stamps issued in Bhutan.

There are pages of a log from 16-year-old Alfred Taylor, whose "Wireless Log" in 1922 can be compared to a modern-day vlog (their comparison not mine) as well as some good information and video on pirate radio.

An excellent feature is the timeline showing key moments in the history of recorded sounds and the story is told of the importance of sound in capturing history.

Lost sounds of the past recovered from traces in soot

One thing I did learn was about the work being carried out recovering lost sounds of the past from traces in soot.

Research undertaken at a USA based project led by archivist David Giovannoni and historian Patrick Feast jnr, suggests the potential of recovering possibly previously hidden and unknown histories by modern technological processes.

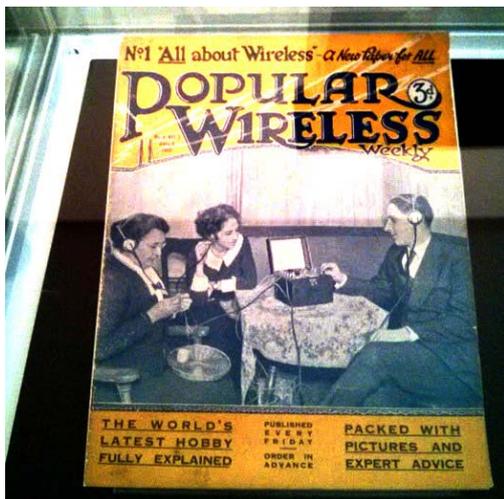
Whilst researching into the world's first recorded sounds they rediscovered a set of 'phonautograms' (sound vibrations traced by a pig bristle stylus onto lampblack coated paper) <http://ethw.org/Phonautograph> This system is said to have inspired Edison's Phonograph.

These "recordings" had been made by inventor Edouard-Leon Scott de Martinville between 1853 and 1860 - long before Edison patented the phonograph in 1877. This was certainly a recording technique that I had not heard of before.

These long-forgotten tracings were made solely for the visual study of acoustic phenomena and were neither intended nor designed to be played back. Despite this Feaster has successfully converted the images into audible sounds which include the earliest intelligible recordings of the human voice - including Scott himself singing the folk song 'Au Clair de la Lune', on 9 April 1800.

Impressive I think. The exhibition has been extended to 13th May 2018

Below some exhibits from the show.





Gecophone Broadcast receiver 1922 - 24
Wireless receiving set 2 valve type BC 2001
From the Richard White G3SRO collection

National Vintage Communications Fair

I must admit that I was not aware of this event until John Knight G8MWF emailed me the following information

Date of next event Sunday 13th May 2018

Visitor admission fees

Normal Entry - 10.30am to 4pm - £10 (under-14s FREE)

Early Entry - from approx. 9.00am - £25

No advance ticketing, all tickets on the door.

FREE CAR PARKING

Venue

Warwickshire Event Centre

The Fosse, Fosse Way, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV31 1XN

For more information visit <https://www.nvcf.org.uk/>

Location information visit <http://www.warwickshireeventcentre.co.uk/visiting/getting-here/>

John may be looking out for someone to go with and possibly share the cost of the journey so email me if you are interested contact him at John_knight1@yahoo.com.

That's all for this issue I hope to see you at the meeting.

All the best

Dave G4YIB

