



Issue 144

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NKRS Newsletter

Our next meeting **4th September 2018** will be at the usual location. The Pop In Parlour (Rendezvous) otherwise known as the Bexleyheath Wellbeing Centre, Graham Road, Bexleyheath. DA6 7EG (Opposite Asda). Doors open at 20.00.

Date	Event
September 4	Natter night
September 18	Bring a thing night
October 2	Natter night
October 16	IP Telephony. A talk by John Knight G8MWF
October 29 ++	5th Tuesday
November 11	J39 Steam Engine refurbishment Stephen Osborn G8JZT
November 20	A.G.M.
November 27 ++	Christmas Curry details to be arranged
December 4	Music Keyboard by Robin Gilbert M0RJT
December 18	Christmas EGM

++ Denotes that this is not a normal club night

Please accept my apologies for there not being much in the newsletter this time but I have other things going on that are restricting my time.

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The last meeting was a musical appreciation night.

I enjoyed the meeting but in retrospect I think the tracks I chose were not altogether suitable. I have often been rather critical of compilations where you sometimes hear tracks out of context and I think I was guilty of doing that.

They were (in my opinion) excellent tracks from excellent cd's but they did not really stand being heard out of place of the other tracks that should accompany them.

In the unlikely event that I have inspired someone to listen to something that they have not heard before the cd's that the tracks came from are:

The Final Cut by Pink Floyd
KAOS by Roger Waters.

Thanks to Pete Martin G0GIR for being MC for the evening and providing technical facilities. It was a shame that it was so poorly attended.



An invitation to a party December 1st 2pm until late

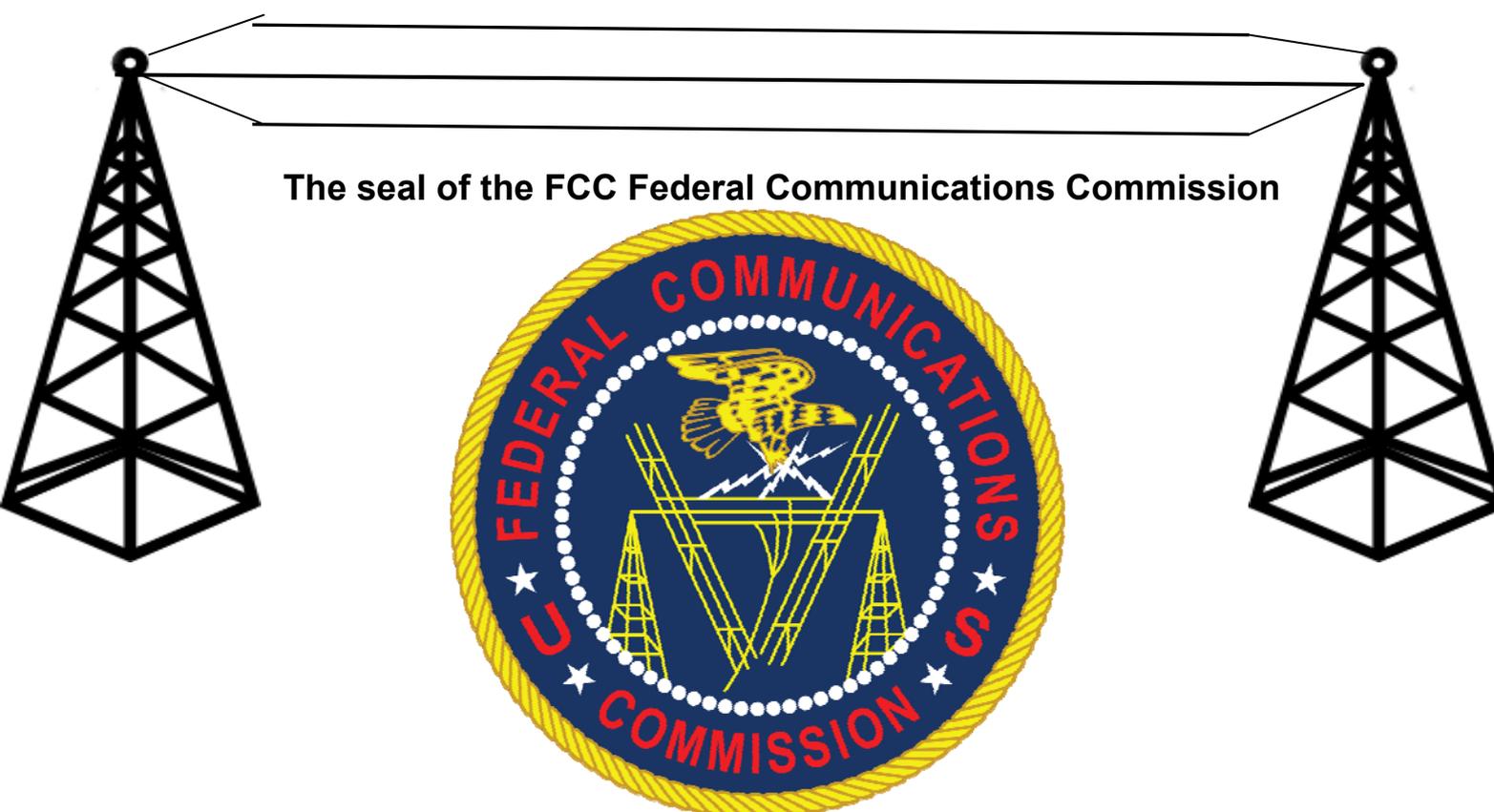
I received the following email from Andy's partner Anne so I am using this media to pass it on to you all.

Please make a note in your diary

Dear Dave

Andy's birthday party . 12 Appleshaw close, Gravesend' Kent DA11 7PB. Can you invite all his friends at the radio club please?

Thank you



The seal of the FCC Federal Communications Commission

Every government organisation in the USA has a seal, most of which are very attractive and have some historic origin. The FCC is no exception.

I have seen their seal a number of times and not really paid it much attention until I read a recent article in QST magazine.

The Federal Communications Commission is an independent agency of the United States government created by statute to regulate interstate communications by radio, television, wire, satellite, and cable (including of course amateur radio).

The FCC was formed by the Communications Act of 1934 to replace the radio regulation functions of the Federal Radio Commission. It is funded entirely by regulatory fees.

If you look at the fundamental part of the design it is similar to the antenna design used on the Titanic, a mast at each end and long wires stretched between them. The Titanic frequencies were of course very low as it was using spark technology. It was the sinking of this ship which prompted the international regulations about how ships radio stations were equipped and operated.

Above the antenna is a flying bald eagle and the writer of the article believes that this symbolises the way radio waves fly from one place to another high above the reach of (human) interference. (not quite true as we well know).

The lightning bolts infer that there is transmitting taking place and the eagle has grasped the bolts to symbolise control of the medium,

The author further believes that the additional extensions of the antenna (which did not appear on the Federal Radio Commissions seal, a forerunner of the FCC) reflect the additional responsibilities of the organisation for media beyond radio and including television, telephone and telegraphy.



- Left: BBC/PMG stamp, November 1st 1922 to September 1924
Centre: BBC/EBM stamp, September 1924 to 1927.
Right: B.B.C. 'Trademark' stamp, September 1924 to 1927

Dating old radios

There are many ways of dating old radios but those produced between 1/11/1922 and 1927 can be dated by the BBC / Postmaster Generals (PMG) stamp,

It came to pass that a scheme was introduced that early crystal sets, valve receivers and valve amplifiers bought for the reception of BBC broadcasts had to be of British manufacture, made by a member firm of the British Broadcasting Company and approved by the Post Master General. All had to have the BBC/PMG stamp illustrated above.

The stamp changed over the years of its use so it can be used to date equipment



A Smiths radio which bears the BBC/PMG stamp



Photographs by Frank G3WMR

Shock and Awe the story of electricity

I received information from Andy about a television program that he saw on Thursday bbc Channel 4. The program is available on I player so it will be still possible to see it and Andy considers it as very worthwhile viewing.

Details from Andy

Professor Jim Al-Khalili tells the electrifying story of our quest to master nature's most mysterious force - electricity. Until fairly recently, electricity was seen as a magical power, but it is now the lifeblood of the modern world and underpins every aspect of our technological advancements.

Without electricity, we would be lost. This series tells of dazzling leaps of imagination and extraordinary experiments - a story of maverick geniuses who used electricity to light our cities, to communicate across the seas and through the air, to create modern industry and to give us the digital revolution.

Just under 200 years ago scientists discovered something profound, that electricity is connected to another of nature's most fundamental forces - magnetism. In the second episode, Jim discovers how harnessing the link between magnetism and electricity would completely transform the world, allowing us to generate a seemingly limitless amount of electric power which we could utilise to drive machines, communicate across continents and light our homes. This is the story of how scientists and engineers unlocked the nature of electricity in an extraordinary century of innovation and invention.

Sorry there is not much this time but to finish above are a couple of photographs taken by Frank at Headcorn recently and some information on a TV program recommend by Andy.

Hope to see you at the next meeting.

All the best

Dave