

Issue 177

Prepared by
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NKRS Newsletter

Our next meeting will be whenever the world is declared safe but when it happens it will be at **The Hurst Community Centre, Room 15, Hurst Place, Bexley, Kent, DA5 3LH**
Doors open at 8PM

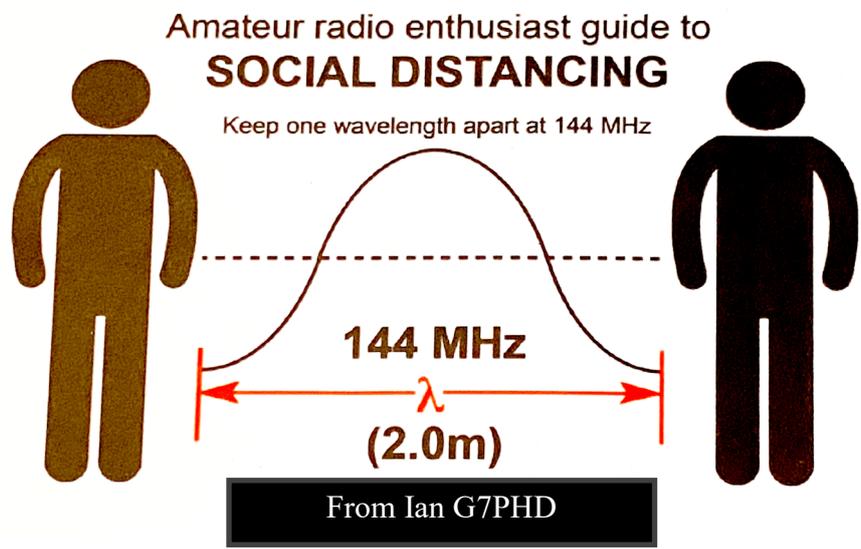
Hopefully there will come a day when the Government and the members considerate it is safe to resume meetings.

I am not too convinced that those dates will coincide as the governments decisions are finance based where our decisions will be safety based but hopefully the day will come when we can resume meetings and be assured we will inform you when that time comes.

Club Net

The club net is now taking place every Tuesday 8.30pm , call on 145.5 and then we move to a convenient clear channel. Please join us.

PLEASE NOTE UNTIL MEETINGS RESUME I WILL ONLY PRODUCE THE NEWSLETTER MONTHLY



How was it for you?

Or should it be how is it for you as its not over yet ?

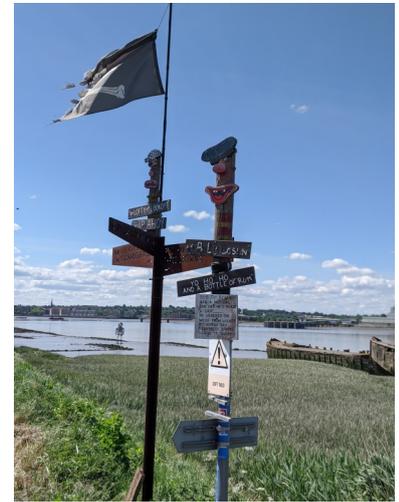
I have been making the most of lockdown to do a few things that I have been meaning to do for a long time,. One of which is getting rid of things. Not as many things as I should but it's a start and if I were locked down for another few years then I might get rid of all the things I should have done.

That would mean all my affairs would be in order and that would not do as I have never in my whole life been in that situation.

I have still been missing the things that I mentioned in the last newsletter but I have been substituting them with travels (for the purpose of exercise) round some local areas and into nearby Kent and Essex. One place I visited I had not seen for around 60 years, and I have trodden some footpaths never travelled by me before. Seen some magnificent views and been to some great places.

I have been consuming huge amounts of coffee so luckily my trip to Antwerp just prior to lockdown gave me the opportunity to visit a French supermarket to stock a large quantity of my favourite brand but my stocks are now heavily depleted.

No I am not going to write about everywhere I have been, that would take too long and fill too many pages but here are some photographs taken on my recent visits. They are not in order of my visits.



Above and below a graveyard of concrete barges guarded by a diver. These are located on the North bank of the Thames near the Rainham landfill site.

When I was at school aged about 13/14 we used to cycle over to this area, wade through the mud and climb up on to the barges (when the tide was right of course). This is not something I would try now.

It appears that the barges were deposited there after the 1953 floods to aid the defence against flooding but I never knew this until recently, we always thought they had got left over from the war.

In our cycling over there days the landfill site (which looks like an Essex mountain when viewed from Erith riverside,) used to be lagoons of mud pumped from a fleet of dredgers that used to operate along the Thames.





Top Left abandoned bunker on Swanscombe marshes the other photographs are an apparently abandoned moorings at broadness.



Above Circle of wood carved chairs in Shorne Woods country park just near the bottom of Cardiac Hill
Below left Kennington park Avely Essex jus a few minutes from the Dartford Crossing
Centre A ww2 bunker in Shorne Woods (not open unfortunately)
Right Emmett Gardens near Ide Hill. The gardens are closed but there is a public footpath through the middle



Finally a visit to Little Burstead woods a very short distance from where I live.



Left and centre some of the many wood carvings in the woods
Right the Covid Snake

Chris G0FDZ's new 122 GHz FM-CW system



More on my J39 5" gauge steam engine By Stephen G8JZT

What's been keeping me occupied recently on my J39 steam engine is the refurbishment of the boiler. Below are a sequence of photo's showing some work needed as a result of stripping out all the parts such as regulator, gauge glass, injectors etc. Figure 1 is the back end of the boiler and the boss at the top is where the regulator fits and unfortunately most of the studs in the 6 holes broke off when trying to dismantle and had to be drilled out. The threads once re-tapped out did not look very good so I decided the proper thing to do was to remove the boss and weld on a new one.

Figure 1



The next sequence of pictures show the removal of the boss using an angle grinder and the new one ready to be welded on.





I have made the new one a bit thicker to ensure a reasonable number of threads for the studs as it does have the full boiler pressure behind it. 160psi hydraulic test and 80psi working

This is a picture of the inside of the boiler looking through the regulator hole towards the front tube plate taken with a cheap electronic endoscope. The heating tubes to the top left have some scale on them but otherwise the condition inside does not look too bad.



The new boss welded in to place.



The next step is to make a new regulator as below because this one got damaged in it's removal.



Probably get round to this after I have replaced the head gasket on the BSA as that was found to be leaking while trying to tune the carb but it is progressing slowly at least the bike is all in one piece now. Totted up the years the bike has been in a state of restoration by me and it's two previous owners, worked out to be 42 years.

More to follow probably,

Stephen G8JZT



Not a J class but an Ex Great Western Manor Class 7820 Dinmore Manor leaving Toddington station on a cold January morning

The shape of things to come ! Maybe!



Above right abandoned railway line in France

Below that is an abandoned golf course in the UK

Top Left a derelict shopping centre in Bosnia

Top Centre and left and right a once prestigious hotel in Bosnia now occupied by a colony of Bats

Is this the shape of things to come in the UK? We don't yet know how many businesses will reopen or how much longer it is not going to be safe to travel in the outside world.

The government say start going about your business and their advisors say it is too early to do so. In the end we are left to make our own decisions.

I would appreciate some feedback on other peoples experiences and thoughts for the future.

Below is the Hope Hotel in Southend on Sea. A good name to have at the moment.



Thurrock Acorns ARC

Weekly 2 metre Nets

CW net: Mondays
7:30pm 144.180Mhz
FM simplex net: Fridays
7:30pm 145.500MHz
SSTV net: First Tuesday
of the month
7:30pm 144.500MHz

SSB net: Fourth Tuesday
of the month
7:30pm 144.300MHz
FM duplex net: Mondays
8:00pm 145.725MHz
(GB3DA output)
hosted by Essex Ham

Please address any comments on or criticisms of the Newsletter to NKRS@crystaldave.com

Any articles for publication would be much appreciated.

That's all for this issue keep safe and healthy

Dave
Chairman NKRS