

NKRS Newsletter

Prepared By
Telephone (44) 07941 796476
Secretary Stephen Osborn G8JZT

D.R.J. Collings G4YIB
Email nkrs@crystaldave.com
(44) 01322 441749 • secretary@nkrs.org.uk

Our next meeting will be if the world is declared safe. When and if it happens it will be at
The Hurst Community Centre, Room 15, Hurst Place, Bexley, Kent, DA5 3LH

2021 Events

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| June 1st | How to ensure the success of your project by Chris G0FDZ JITSi |
| June 15th | Jitsi Meeting |
| July 6th | Good news we hope to return to meetings at our regular Meeting place. More information follows. |

The start time for Jitsi meetings will be 8PM and unless otherwise advised we will use the link

<https://meet.jit.si/stepheng8jztnkrs>

Please note that Jitsi Meetings are open to all, not just members of the NKRS

A message from our Secretary

Hi all,

As I write we are coming to the end of May which means that assuming no changes to the removal of Covid restrictions we are about 5 weeks away from returning to our meeting venue which hopefully will be Tuesday the 6th July. For those that plan to attend, may I refer you to News Letter 188 where you will find a Covid protocol and please familiarize yourself with it if you haven't already done so.

I plan to trial a virtual meeting on the same night from the meeting room for those that won't be there but will stress how well it will work is yet to be determined. A bit nearer the time I will ask for members to indicate whether they will attend or not so that the club and Hurst management are aware of the numbers of attendees.

I'm sure it will be mentioned elsewhere but don't forget our next virtual club meeting is this coming Tuesday (1st June) where Chris G0FDZ will giving his presentation "How to ensure the success of your project".

So until then keep safe and hope to see you soon.

Stephen G8JZT
Secretary

Club Net

The club net will now be taking place every Tuesday when we are not having digital meetings.

Start 8.30pm , call on 145.5 and then we move to a convenient clear channel. Please join us.

Our Next Meeting

How to ensure the success of your project by Chris G0FDZ

I have seen this talk before but it is so excellent that it is worth a second viewing.

This talk, although aimed at amateur radio is equally applicable if your project involves working on boats, car restorations and even life itself.

Many of the things that Chris will tell you, you will know already but it helps focus on the key points of managing a project so you might know it all but you should still log on for this talk.

The start time will be 8PM and use the link below

<https://meet.jit.si/stepheng8jztnkrs>

16th Edition of the Global Radio Guide Now Available

If you interests are to monitor shortwave radio broadcasts, Amateur Radio bands, or aeronautical, maritime, government, or military communications in the HF radio spectrum, the "Global Radio Guide" has the frequencies to help you to hear it all. Teak Publishing's "brings the world to you."

You can find the 16th edition of the Global Radio Guide on the Teak Publishing Web site at www.teakpublishing.com. For a limited time, all previous editions of the Global Radio Guide will also be available at a reduced price.

The 16th edition of the Global Radio Guide-Book (electronic book only, no print edition available) is also available worldwide from Amazon and their various international websites.

Radio Garden

From Wikipedia

Radio Garden is a non-profit Dutch radio and digital research project developed from 2013 to 2016, by the Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision (under the supervision of Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg's Golo Föllmer), by the Transnational Radio Knowledge Platform and five other European universities. According to the service, the idea is to narrow the boundaries from the radio. It gained popularity in 2016 when it surpassed the 8.000 registered station mark and, as announced at The Radio Conference 2016: Transnational Encounters, went viral.

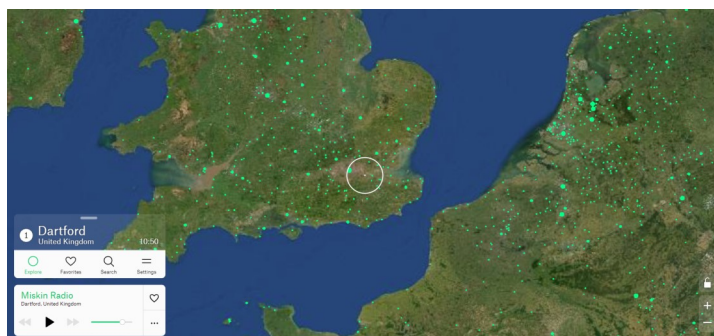
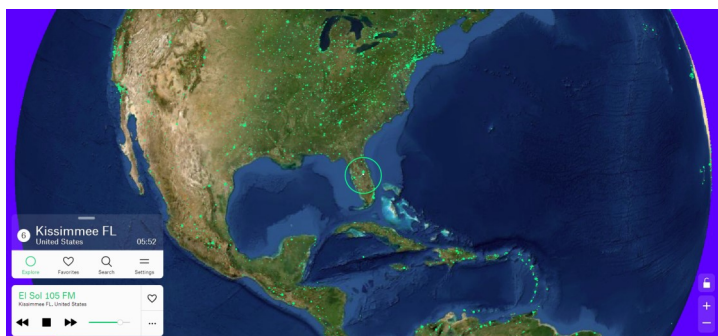
Well there is the complicated bit the reality could not be simpler.

Log on to www.radio.garden rotate the globe to your country of interest and then click on the town and you will see a list of radio stations and dots on the map showing where they are.

Click on the spot listen and enjoy, couldn't be easier. You will discover stations you did not know existed in your area, after all who has ever heard of Miskin Radio well you have now [Home - Miskin Media](#)

Try it yourself <http://radio.garden/visit>

Thanks to John Moor G8DOG for sending me this



The Yaesu FT101 is 50 Years Old

Yaesu is a Japanese brand of commercial and amateur radio equipment, which was founded in 1959 as **Yaesu Musen Co., Ltd.** by a Japanese radio amateur Sako Hasegawa with call sign **JA1MP** in the Tokyo neighbourhood of Yaesu.

It is said that their initial intention was to develop and manufacture commercial and amateur radio transceivers for the Japanese market but now their market is (I believe) worldwide.

Initially in Europe, the equipment was sold under the **Yaesu** brand and the **Sommerkamp** brand but now only the Yaesu brand remains in use. In Europe it was branded Sommerkamp FT277.

In 1970 along came the FT101 the transceiver that established Yaesu in the world ham market.

This was a hybrid HF Transceiver that combined a solid state transmitter, receiver and a valved final amplifier. Its design was unusual (and perhaps unique) at the time with modules consisting of 10 solid-state circuit boards on a common chassis and a two valve RF amplifier. It came supplied with a built in speaker its own internal power supply and auxiliary connection for a number add-on units that were produced by Yaesu and 3rd party manufacturers. Whilst the VFO was very stable (it had adjustable temperature compensation) operators could fit 2 fixed channel crystals.

All models after the Mk1 came with a PA fan, and the E models had a built-in RF Speech Clipper

During the CB era these radio's were much sought after. A simple modification of removing the 4 10 Meter band setting crystals enable the operator to use the sets on the 26.0 to 28.0 Mhz bands. The Mk1 did not cover 160M but there was an AUX band position, and some Yaesu dealers offered a 160M modification.

Thousands of these units are still in use round the world today and many of the parts are easily replaceable with standard components. Some parts however are getting difficult to obtain so there is a good second hand market for even not working FT101's.

The design made for easy modification and there were many different versions manufactured over the years from the FT101 to the FT101F/FE/FX. The FT101Z series (1978-1985) were an entirely different animal.

Specifications

- Range: 1.8-30 MHz (160/80/40/20/15/11/10 m) *160 Except MK1 versions*, 10.0-10.5 MHz (WWV receive only)
- Modes: CW, USB, LSB, AM
- Power Output: SSB 260 watts PEP DC In (130 watts out), CW 180 watts PEP DC In (90 watts out), AM 80 watts PEP DC In (40 watts out).
- RX Sensitivity: Better than 0.3uV for 10 dB S/N
- TX Freq Response: 300 – 2700 Hz
- RX Freq Response: 300 – 2700 Hz Standard Yaesu SSB Filter, 600 Hz with Optional Yaesu CW Filter
- Optional Filters: 300 – 1800 Hz SSB Narrow (Fox Tango Filter), 250 Hz CW Narrow (Fox Tango or SMC Filter)
- Audio Output: 3 watts
- AC Power: 110-240 V Rx 45 W, Tx 350 W
- DC Power: 13.5 V Rx 0.6 A, Tx 21 A
- Weight: 33 pounds (15 kg)
- Size: 13+1/2 by 6 by 11+1/2 inches (340 mm × 150 mm × 290 mm)

To put this in perspective here are what an FT101 cost then and today's equivalent value
1973 (The earliest UK advert I could find) FT101 £ 255 equivalent today as *£2156
1974 FT101B would have cost £363 equivalent today *£2645
1977 FT101EE would have cost £408 equivalent today *£1772

*Based on figures supplied by the Office for National Statistics (UK)

June 2020 Kids Day

1800 UTC-2359 UTC
Saturday, June 20, 2020

Kids Day is a project by the ARRL designed to give on-the-air experience to young people. The intention is to hopefully foster interest in getting involved in amateur radio. It is also intended to give older hams a chance to share their station and appreciation of Amateur Radio with their children.

Sponsored by the Boring (Oregon) Amateur Radio Club, this event has a simple exchange suitable for a younger operator: first name, age, location, and favourite colour. After that, the contact can be as long or short as each participant likes.

Although an American project I can see the benefit of UK stations joining in and enhancing the experience of youngsters

Suggested Frequencies-

of course all may not work across the pond on the day

10 Meters: 28.350 to 28.400 MHz

12 Meters: 24.960 to 24.980 MHz

15 Meters: 21.360 to 21.400 MHz

17 Meters: 18.140 to 18.145 MHz

20 Meters: 14.270 to 14.300 MHz

40 Meters: 7.270 to 7.290 MHz

80 Meters: 3.740 to 3.940 MHz

Complete rules can be found at
www.arrl.org/kids-day



Peter M0PBR teaching Tirza M3YIB Morse at Hall Place



GB5UTA active in June for U3A event

From Wikipedia

The U3A is an international movement whose aims are the education and stimulation of mainly retired members of the community—those in their third 'age' of life.

The U3A is an organisation that I thought I might become involved in after my retirement. Little did I know that I would have less time for things like that than when I was working.

GB5UTA will be on-the-air June 1-28 promoting Amateur Radio among the 450,000 strong University of the Third Age (U3A) an organisation that aims to help people learn, stay active and have fun in later life

I seem to remember that (from a survey carried out by the RSGB) that the U3A age group is from where new amateurs are most likely to be recruited.

This Special Event station will be active June 1-28 operating on behalf of the Cirencester and Tetbury branches of the University of TheThird Age (U3A). On June 2 the branches will be celebrating U3A Day alongside other UK branches.

The very first national u3a day – celebrating the learning, activity and fun that happens every day in u3as across the country – will now take place on 2nd June 2021

More information about U3A day from

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/u3a-day/u3a-day-about>

More about the U3A

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/about>

George J Laurer K4HZE September 23, 1925 - December 5, 2019

George Joseph Laurer was born in New York, NY, on September 23, 1925. After returning from World War II, he began training as a radio and television engineer. After a year, he moved to the University of Maryland, where he graduated in 1951 as a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering.

Whilst you might not know his name you would certainly have seen the result of his patents, The **Universal Product Code UPC**;

The **UPC code** is a barcode symbology that is widely used in most countries for tracking trade items in stores.

The origins of the barcode go back to 1970 when a Committee was formed. It consisted of CEO's, Vice Chairmen, and other high ranking officers of grocery manufacturers and grocery distributors, both large and small. It was most likely around 1973 when the current format was agreed. Now of course you see them everywhere.

So next time you see a barcode on something just remember that we radio hams are an inventive lot.



North Kent Radio Society NKRS

Dutch inventor of the audio cassette tape dies

Dutch media have reported that Lou **Frederik** Ottens, inventor of the cassette tape and a CD pioneer died aged **94** at his home in Duizel in Brabant on 6 March 2021.

Lou was best known as the inventor of the cassette tape, and for his work in helping to develop the compact disc. He was employed by Philips for the entirety of his career..

He started working for Philips in 1952. Eight years later he became head of the firm's recently introduced product development department. Within a year he and his team had developed the first portable tape recorder of which over a million were sold. Two years later he fundamentally changed the old reel-to-reel tape system by inventing the cassette tape.

In 1963 the first plastic encased cassette tape was presented at an electronics fair carrying the slogan 'smaller than a pack of cigarettes.

The mass production of "blank" Compact Cassettes began in 1964 in Hanover, Germany.

Pre-recorded music cassettes were launched in Europe in late 1965 and to the US in July 1966. The initial offering consisted of 49 titles.

Cassettes remained popular applications such as car audio, personal stereo and telephone answering machines, well into the 1990s but By 1993, annual shipments of CD players had reached 5 million while cassette player shipments had dropped to approximately 3.4 million. By the early 2000s, the CD player rapidly replaced the cassette player as the default audio component in the majority of new vehicles in Europe and America.

They were good at the time but I am sure you all remember picking the tape out of the mechanism and trying to rewind them with a pencil.



For Sale from the estate of the late Pam (Penny) M3USW



General Specifications

- 99 memories
- 25-1000, 1025-2000MHz range
- Scan rate 8cps (max)
- AM, WFM, FM, LSB, USB
- 100Hz; 1, 5, 10, 12.5, 25kHz steps
- Priority scan
- Autostore (20 channels)
- Voice squelch control (VSC)
- Analogue signal meter
- Noise blanker (NB)
- Attenuator
- Wireless remote control (optional)
- Tape recorder control
- Computer control

The Icom IC-R7000 VHF-UHF receiver covers from 25 to 999 and 1025 to 2000 MHz in the following modes: AM, AM-W, FM, FM-W, FM-N, USB and LSB. The IC-R7000 covers nearly 2000 MHz of spectrum to include low band, VHF civil and military aeronautical bands, marine, business, FM, amateur, government and TV bands. 99 memories store frequency and mode and may be selected by simply pressing the memory switch, then rotating the memory channel knob or by direct keyboard entry. Scan modes include full-scan, programmed-scan, mode-scan, selected-scan, priority-scan and auto write programmed-scan. By depressing the Auto-M switch, the receiver automatically memorizes frequencies in use while the unit is in the scan mode. Modes include: FM-Wide, FM-Narrow, AM, USB and LSB. Six tuning speeds: 0.1, 1.0, 5, 10, 12.5 or 25 kHz. Requires 117/240 VAC. Specifications guaranteed from 25-1000 MHz and 1260-1300 MHz.

This receiver (as pictured above but not the same one) is for sale.

If you are interested in owning one of these excellent receivers please email me and I will put you in touch with the vendor.

Dave G4YIB Email address on Page 1 of this newsletter.

Looking at photographs makes you happy



According to a recent article in the Camping and Caravan magazine (thanks to Frank G3WMR for passing that on to me) looking at photographs makes you happy.

I gave this a little bit of thought and it is true so I have included a picture that I enjoy looking at and I thought I would explain why.

I took this photograph after I had been sailing on a friend's boat around the Greek and Turkish islands for a couple of weeks. We had had a great time, excellent food (both aboard and on shore), seen wonderful sights and only had a few scary moments.

Coming towards the end of the trip we were sailing to Kos Harbour (I was flying back from Kos) and we started racing with this Turkish Gulet.

It is very rare to see these in sail but they are an impressive site when you do. We had a good wind and were going really well and I was holding on with my knees trying to take this photograph as we were bouncing around in the waves and leaning over a very long way. At about this point our solar shower went overboard.

He was definitely faster than us but we kept up a good pace with him until we parted company to go on different courses.

A couple of days later I was sitting on the aircraft returning home and leaving the sunshine behind.

It occurs to me that it would be interesting if some of the readers of this newsletter could submit some photographs that they particularly enjoy and share with us a couple of paragraphs about the story round the picture.

What do you think ?

That's all for this issue but just a reminder not to forget the talk by Chris G0FDZ on **June 1st**

How to ensure the success of your project by Chris G0FDZ

This is an excellent talk so please try not to miss it.

Keep safe and well

Dave G4YIB