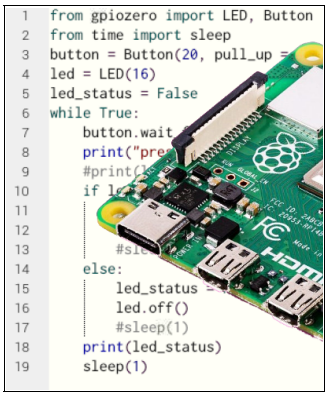
Newsletter: May 2021

acorns@taarc.co.uk

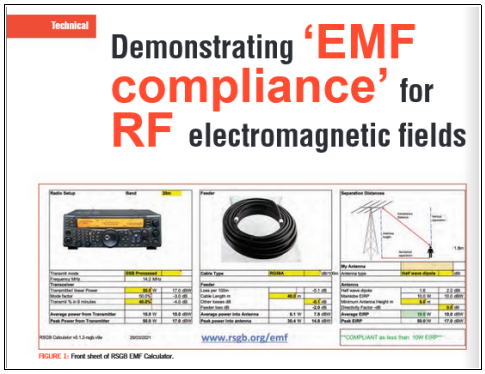
Eddie's Pi?



Over the past few weeks Eddie (G0BKL) has been running a Zoom introductory event into Raspberry Pi on a Saturday afternoon. During this time some members have advanced at a quicker rate than others! So it was suggested we re-structure the group to beginners and advanced. Starting on 8th of May there will be a new Pi Beginners' Hobby Group designed as self-help group, lasting one hour, where anyone learning the Pi code can seek help when needed. If attendees need a little extra time then Eddie has indicated he will either stay a little longer or arrange follow up meeting on Zoom.

Benefits of Membership

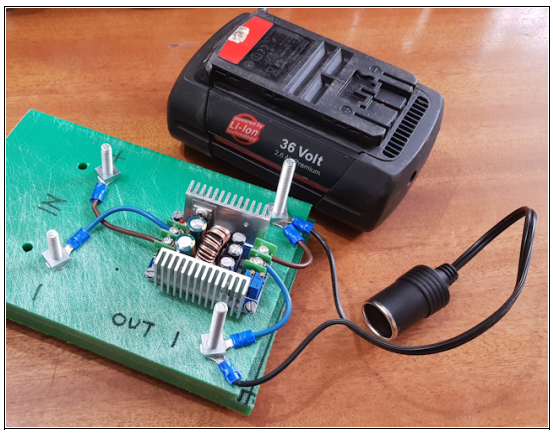
During lockdown our meetings, both the monthly club meetings and the additional Knowledge Transfer Meetings (where a particular practical topic is demonstrated in depth), have been held on-line and made available to anyone who would like to join. As they are Zoom meetings you need to be sent the specific links which are not published online. As a signed-up member of Acorns you will automatically received an email reminding you of ALL our events from SSTV, weekly FM, monthly SSB net, KTMs and the rest. So, don't miss out and join Acorns for just £5.



Monthly Meeting – April

Once again, many thanks to Dave de La Haye M0MBD who gave up his evening for an extended presentation on the helpful spreadsheet produced by the RSGB that explains how to calculate the minimum safe distance from a transmitting antenna. It will be a condition of your licence to have completed these calculations for certain frequencies later this month and a requirement for all frequencies later this year. Without the RSGBs help in producing this spreadsheet and articles in RadCom, and Dave's tutorial, it would have been almost impossible for most amateurs to have done the complicated maths which the spreadsheet does for us.

A Practical in Recycling



Nigel, M0ICH, is not known for his hands-on abilities but last month he found an experiment really useful. He had an old 36V lawn mower battery that he thought could be adapted in some way to power a 12V device. He tried to design a Potential Divider from the knowledge gained in the world of Radio Amateurs. That got more complicated than he anticipated so bought a "Step Down Buck Converter" and wired it up and is delighted with the results. Photo shows v.1 to test the theory and v2 is now encased in an electrically insulated box.

What's Next?

On 3rd June at 19:30hrs Acorns is delighted to welcome as our guest speaker, Iain Moffat G0OZS who will use computer generated diagrams of the current distribution and radiation patterns in common HF and VHF antennas to demonstrate why they behave in the way that they do. Iain knows a thing or two about antennas and this is an great opportunity to tap into his extensive knowledge. This is a Zoom event and open to anyone who would like to join in; to get the link email: ttt@acorns.co.uk