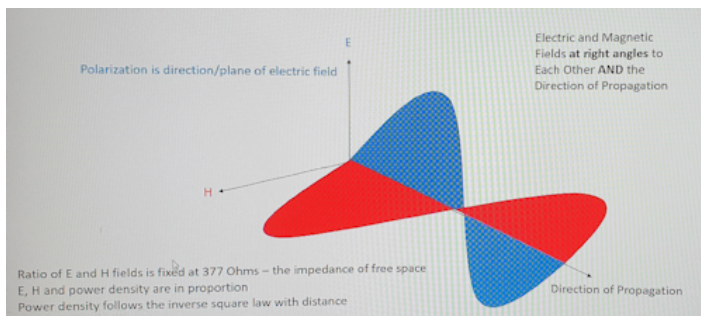


June Webinar

Iain Moffat, G0OZS, was our guest speaker for June. He explained antenna modelling and started from first principles with an explanation of how current and voltage vary along a dipole and developed the topic from there. We were joined by Nigel M0ICH/M (in the passenger seat) although, to be fair, watching a presentation can lead to travel sickness. The good news is that whole presentation is available to watch again in full via the Acorns Website.



This presentation is a good example of the quality of the Webinars being facilitated by the club. The slides started with the basics of propagation (left) and progressed to computer modelling for complex systems.

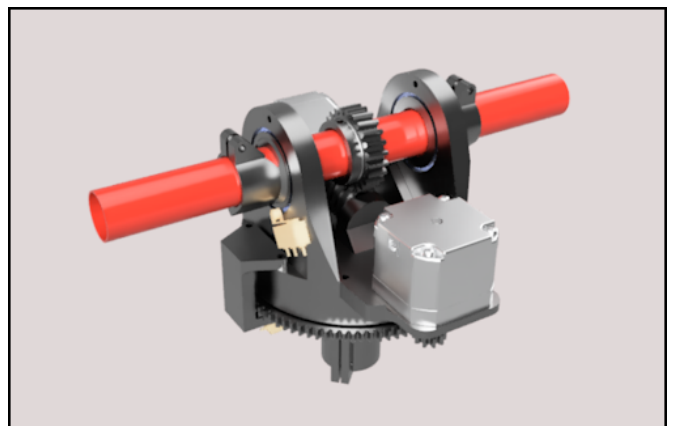
The NEC software needed is free to download and will help with the Ofcom field strength calculations. If you get stuck there are members with the club who also used the system and are happy to help.

Updates on the Monthly Club meeting (via Zoom 27th May)

Grateful to Daniel, M7FDP, who has prepared a draft club risk assessment. This will be a “living document” so please tell Daniel, or a member of the management team, of any issues to include or review. Future plans are all subject to government regulations and a club review of circumstances in early July. At last night’s meeting Gary M0ICG invited the club to his home on Saturday 24th or Saturday 31st July (WX dependant). His home has a large garden and we would be outside and be able to respect social distancing.

A Lockdown Project

Eddie G0BKL wanted to learn about 3D printing and Arduino’s. He liked the Az-EI Rotator and sourced parts from an old printer and a metal broom handle! Using a 3D CAD package, ideas were tested for the rotator and antennas on the condition that it is transportable. By the end of 2020 the rotator was working but had a major flaw; when the power was removed the antenna rotated due to gravity. The rotator is now in the MK2 version which has removed some design errors. The 2 metre antenna has been built and tested, just the 70cm one to do. The next part will be the Pi based control station.



Improve your CW – with Acorns Essex CW

Acorns’ members have had a resurgence of interest in Morse Code recently with classes online and soon (possibly) over the air. Essex CW run a 8pm Sun Night Net on 144.060 USB-CW and you are welcome to join in or simply listen. On Sat 16th October EssexCW are running their CW Boot Camp in Witham (with people attending from all over the UK). If you would like to book your place contact Andy G0IBN on 0745 342 60 87, or via email: g0ibn1@yahoo.com