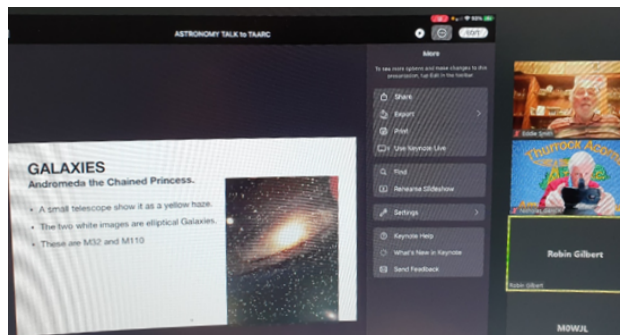


Things are Looking UP at Acorns

On Thursday 23rd September Robin MØRJT gave us a Zoom presentation on astronomy and his experiences as he delved further into this topic.

He was fortunate, as a family member bought him a quality telescope that allows him to look at different planets and track them automatically.

Linking it up to his mobile phone he explained how he can capture images of the different planets. Did you know one planet is upside down? Although the topic can be quite involved, Robin's presentation was kept at the correct level and all those that attended said they found the talk very informative. Following the event the word got out and some people who could not make the evening event asked if Robin would re run the presentation which he agreed to do.



The Sun Came Out for our Field Day



Many thanks to Gary MØICG, and XYL, for opening up their garden in Wickford for an Acorns Field Day on 18th September. Plenty of opportunity to play "antennas" and experiment with HF operations.

This event had been in the planning for some time and was postponed for various reasons, but we got there in the end.

Picture left shows Eddie GØBKL with a fist of equipment to do what Amateurs do best – experiment and test kit. Picture right shows Peter M6RFW having a step-up to portable operating. When using a battery there is a need to balance the power available with your enthusiasm to transmit. Thanks to Rachel G6AMY for attending and taking these photos.



A Busy Diary

- Between 10th and 20th September Acorns held the Special Event Callsign of "GB2BB" to remember the Battle of Britain. Eddie GØBKL called CQ on 2m on the 15th Sept, and called CQ on HF on the 18th operating from Gary's QTHG as part of the Field Day.
- Following the success of last year, Acorns have again secured the Special Event Callsign "GB2REM" from Wed 10th November and finishing on Remembrance Sunday, 14th Nov. Full Licence holders are invited to apply to Nick G4HCK to use the callsign.
- There will be another opportunity to learn or become more experience in the use of Raspberry Pi as applied to Amateur Radio when Eddie GØBKL will conduct a series of Zoom interactive presentations. The first will be on Tuesday 19th November at 7pm.

HF is improving; the Solar Flux Index (SFI) is increasing so long range contacts will get better; a good time to get on air. Keep an eye on the Acorns Website for up-to-date information on Zoom Presentations, including the CW class led by Stella GØEKP, and the list of regular nets: Voice, SSB and SSTV. With the RSGB having dropped the requirement for a competency test in the practical use of Amateur Radio the weekly 2m Voice nets are a great way to practice some basic operating practice. We are often joined by new callers who call in for a few 'overs' and then QSX.